

Erik F. Franks

PARTNER

Corporate
Palo Alto

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FOCUS AREAS

Capital Markets
Corporate
Corporate Governance
Derivatives
Finance and Structured
Finance

HIGHLIGHTS

- Extensive Experience in Debt and Equity Offerings**
Erik has represented issuers and investment banks in more than 100 debt and equity offerings, including convertible, high-yield, and investment-grade notes; preferred stock; and other structured financial instruments.
- Prominent Technology and Growth Clients**
Erik has represented numerous technology companies in convertible note, high-yield note, and investment-grade offerings, including Adobe Systems, LinkedIn, Netflix, NetApp, and Twitter.
- Underwriter Counsel Expertise**
Erik has advised investment banks such as BofA Merrill Lynch, Goldman, Sachs, Jefferies, J.P. Morgan, and Morgan Stanley in company offerings.

EXPERIENCE

Erik Franks is a partner in the Palo Alto office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati and a co-leader of the firm's corporate finance practice. He focuses on corporate finance and securities law and has represented issuers and investment banks in more than 100 debt and equity offerings, including convertible, high-yield, and investment-grade notes; preferred stock; and other structured financial instruments. Erik has worked with numerous issuers to repurchase outstanding shares of common stock or debt securities, including through private market repurchases, tender offers, or exchange offers. In addition, he represents borrowers in the negotiation of secured and unsecured bank financings, including Term Loan A, Term Loan B, revolving credit, and commercial paper facilities.

Erik also has experience advising on a broad range of derivative instruments, including commercial hedging arrangements such as foreign exchange derivatives, interest rate swaps, and commodity derivatives, and complex structured derivative transactions such as capped calls, tax-integrated bond hedge and warrant transactions, capped and collared accelerated stock repurchases, and prepaid forward stock purchase transactions.

Erik has been ranked and recognized as a leader in the capital markets practice in various publications, including *Chambers Global* and *Chambers USA*. Recognized by both *Chambers USA* and *Chambers Global* for having "noteworthy command of convertible offerings" and "an impressive practice that sees him advise some of the best-known technology companies and investment banks," clients remark Erik is "a great debt specialist" who is "very responsive and knowledgeable."

CREDENTIALS

Education

- J.D., University of California College of the Law, San Francisco, 2006
- B.A., English, San Diego State University, 2003

Honors

- Named in the 2021-2025 editions of *Chambers Global*
- Recognized in the 2020-2024 editions of *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*

Admissions

- State Bar of California

MATTERS

Select Recent Transactions

Convertible Note Offerings

- Block
- Infinera
- InterDigital
- Lyft
- Square
- Sunrun
- Twitter

Senior/High-Yield Note Offerings

- Block
- GoDaddy
- Micron Technology
- Netflix
- Seagate Technology
- Twitter

Investment-Grade Note Offerings

- Adobe Systems
- Applied Materials
- Autodesk
- Microchip Technology
- Micron Technology
- NetApp

Underwriter Representation

Representation of investment banks such as BofA Merrill Lynch, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank, Goldman, Sachs, Jefferies, JMP Securities, J.P. Morgan, and Morgan Stanley, including in offerings by the following issuers:

- Advanced Micro Devices
- MongoDB
- Okta
- The Real Real