

WILSON SONSINI

Mike A. Pestana

PARTNER

Corporate
San Francisco

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FOCUS AREAS

Corporate
Corporate Governance
Emerging Companies
Mergers & Acquisitions

HIGHLIGHTS

- Represents Start-Ups and Venture Investors**
Mike provides strategic business advice and counsel to startups and venture investors on a broad range of issues, with a particular focus on private financings and acquisitions.
- Diverse Industry Experience**
Mike has worked with clients in various industries, including enterprise SaaS, cloud computing, fintech, renewable energy, industrial sustainability, and alternative proteins.
- Thought Leadership**
Mike often speaks on matters related to venture financings, start-ups, and corporate governance.

EXPERIENCE

Mike Pestana is a corporate partner in the San Francisco office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati and specializes in corporate and securities law. He represents early- and late-stage start-ups throughout all stages of their life cycle, along with numerous venture investors. Mike often leads strategic deals, including private financings, secondary transactions, tender offers, recapitalizations, and acquisitions.

Mike regularly provides strategic business and legal advice to entrepreneurs and start-ups as outside general counsel. His clients represent the full range of the start-up ecosystem, from one-person companies to unicorns preparing for a public offering.

In addition, Mike is often a speaker on matters related to start-ups and venture financings, including at events hosted by Berkeley SkyDeck, Founder University, The Nasdaq Entrepreneurial Center, and 500 Startups.

CREDENTIALS

Education

- J.D., University of Michigan Law School, 2013
- B.A., Philosophy, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2010

Admissions

- State Bar of California

INSIGHTS

Select Speaking Engagements

- Speaker, "VC Industry Trends and Early-Stage VC Investment Trends," Advanced Venture Capital 2022, Practising Law Institute, November 17, 2022
- Speaker, "Venture Capital Deals," Venture Capital 2022: Nuts and Bolts, Practising Law Institute, May 16, 2022
- Presenter, Launch's Founder University, Webcast, February 2022
- Presenter, Launch's Founder University, Webcast, November 8-9, 2021