WILSON SONSINI

Alex Key

PARTNER

Technology Transactions

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FOCUS AREAS

Biotech

Global Generics

Life Sciences

Technology Transactions

HIGHLIGHTS

Notable Transactions
Alex has worked with notable industry names such as Peloton Therapeutics, WuXi Apptec, and Enable Injections

EXPERIENCE

Dr. Alexander Key is a partner in the technology transactions practice of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where he focuses primarily on the representation of biotechnology, pharmaceutical, medical device, diagnostic, and digital health companies. Alex advises private and public companies, both domestic and international, in a broad range of complex partnering transactions, including the structuring and negotiation of acquisitions, licenses, strategic alliances, financings, initial public offerings, research and development agreements and procurement arrangements. He also assists non-profit clients with transactional and intellectual property matters, including The Fogarty Institute and The Buck Institute for Research on Aging.

Prior to practicing law, Alex conducted doctoral research on G protein-coupled receptor signaling in the laboratories of Drs. Larry Sklar and Eric Prossnitz and undergraduate research on endocrinology in the laboratory of Dr. Richard Dorin.

CREDENTIALS

Education

- J.D., Duke University School of Law, 2005
  Cum Laude; Board Member, Intellectual Property Law Society; Editor, Duke Environmental Law & Policy Forum
- Ph.D., Biomedical Sciences, University of New Mexico School of Medicine, 2002
  With Highest Distinction
- B.A., Economics and Philosophy, University of New Mexico, 1999
  With Highest Distinction
- Major in Economics, Cornell University

Admissions

- State Bar of California
- State Bar of New York

MATTERS

Recent Illustrative Transactions

- LaNova Medicine in its $600 million exclusive license agreement with AstraZeneca
- The Buck Institute for Research on Aging in its $70 million collaboration with the Astera Institute
- Kumquat Biosciences in its exclusive collaboration with Loxo Oncology at Lilly
- Curon Biopharma in various licensing transactions, including with Rhizen Pharma for the acquisition of the China rights to lymphoma drug, Tenalisib
- Durect in various licensing transactions, including with Gilead Sciences
- Enable Injections in various strategic partnerships, including with Sanofi and Genentech
- Assertio (f/k/a Depomed) in its licensing transaction with Collegium
- Peloton Therapeutics in its acquisition by Merck
- Beijing Apollo Venus Biomedical Technology in its licensing transaction with Tocagen
- Transplant Genomics in its acquisition by Eurofins Scientific
- The Foundry in various portfolio companies, including Foundry SING1
- Numerate in various strategic partnerships, including with Takeda and Lundbeck Pharmaceutical
- Simcere Pharmaceutical in its licensing transaction with Amgen
- WuXi Apptec in its joint venture with Schrodinger
- Cryterion Medical in its acquisition by Boston Scientific
- 6 Dimensions Capital in various partnering and investment transactions
- Semnur Pharmaceuticals in its merger with Sorrento Therapeutics
- RetroSense in its acquisition by Allergan
- Shin Nippon Biomedical Laboratories in its spinout of Satsuma Pharmaceuticals
- QT Vascular in its asset sale transactions with Medtronic and Teleflex
- Millipede in its acquisition option agreement with Boston Scientific
- IDbyDNA in various strategic partnerships, including with Fleury Group and ARUP Laboratories
- Medeon Biodesign in its asset sale to Terumo Corporation

INSIGHTS

Select Publications/Patents

- "Inhibition of chemoattractant N-formyl peptide receptor trafficking by active arrestins," 6 *Traffic* 87-99, 2005
- "N-formyl peptide receptor phosphorylation domains differentially regulate arrestin and agonist affinity," 278 *Journal of Biological Chemistry* 4041-47, 2003
- "Regulation of formyl peptide receptor agonist affinity by reconstitution with arrestins and heterotrimeric G proteins," 276 *Journal of Biological Chemistry* 49204-12, 2001
- Co-inventor with L.A. Sklar, et al., "Bead-based Detection of Ligand-GPCR-G Complexes," U.S. Patent No. 7,189,519, 2003