

# WILSON SONSINI

## J. Matthew (Matt) Lyons

PARTNER

Corporate  
Austin

mlyons@wsgr.com  
512-338-5411



### FOCUS AREAS

Capital Markets  
Communications and  
Networking  
Corporate  
Corporate Governance  
Corporate Life Sciences  
Digital Media and  
Entertainment  
Emerging Companies and  
Venture Capital  
Financial Services  
Fintech  
Fintech and Financial  
Services  
FoodTech and AgTech  
Internet  
Mergers & Acquisitions  
NewSpace  
Semiconductors  
Software  
Special Purpose Acquisition  
Companies (SPACs)  
Wealthtech

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **Emerging Companies Expertise**  
Matt has over 25 years of experience focusing on serving the needs of the emerging growth sector, advising on new entity formation, venture and other private capital financings, corporate venture capital, M&A transactions, IPOs, SPACs, and corporate governance and compensation matters, among others.
- **Leader in His Field**  
Matt has long been recognized as a leading corporate attorney, having been selected as a Band 1 Technology lawyer in Texas by *Chambers & Partners USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* for over a decade, and has also been frequently recognized in *Best Lawyers in America* and *The US Legal 500*.
- **Experienced Texas Attorney**  
Matt has built his emerging companies practice from his base in Austin as the city has evolved from its early stages of growth into a global technology powerhouse, cultivating both local and national relationships.

### EXPERIENCE

J. Matthew (Matt) Lyons is a corporate partner in the Austin office of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, where his practice focuses on the representation of companies and their investors in the emerging companies ecosystem. For the past 25 years, he has been a leading attorney in the Texas market, advising public and private companies, venture and private equity funds, and entrepreneurs on new entity formation, venture financings, public and private offerings, mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, and issues related to corporate governance and executive compensation. Matt's clients include companies in the technology, life sciences, healthcare, retail and CPG, and media and communications industries.

Prior to joining the firm, Matt was a corporate and securities partner and leader in establishing the emerging companies practice at Shearman & Sterling, where he helped found its Austin office in 2018. He was previously a partner in the Austin offices of Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison and Andrews Kurth LLP (now Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP). He began his legal career in the Houston office of Bracewell & Patterson.

Matt has been recognized as leading corporate attorney by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business* for his impressive range of experience representing both public and private companies, where sources remark he is "a consummate professional in everything he does," "excellent at managing business realities," and "super-commercial and helpful in a complex deal."

Matt is a frequent speaker and participant on panels on topics of interest to founders, companies, investors, and the emerging growth community at large.

## CREDENTIALS

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### Education

- J.D., The University of Texas School of Law, 1993
- B.A., Economics, The University of Texas at Austin, 1990

### Associations and Memberships

- Advisory Board Member, Hicks, Muse, Tate & Furst Center for Private Equity Finance at the University of Texas McCombs School of Business
- Voluntary Board Member and Term Sheet and Business Formation Mock Negotiation Mentor, The University of Texas Venture Fellows MBA Program (2003-present)
- Advisory Board Member, Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship
- Fellow, Texas Bar Foundation

### Honors

- Named among the 2023 “Top 10 Most Influential Corporate Technology Lawyers in Texas” by *Business Today*
- Recognized as a Band 1 technology lawyer and Band 2 corporate lawyer in Texas in the 2006-2026 editions of *Chambers USA: America’s Leading Lawyers for Business*
- Honored in the Securities/Capital Markets Law category of *Best Lawyers in America* (2013-2018)
- Recognized among the leading technology lawyers in the United States by *The US Legal 500* (2010-2017)
- Named to the “Texas Super Lawyers” list published by *Texas Monthly* in the Securities & Corporate Finance category (2017)

### Admissions

- State Bar of Texas
- State Bar of Utah

## INSIGHTS

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### Select Speaking Engagements

- "ACC Austin's Webinar: M&A Trends: SPACs and IP Issues in M&A Transactions," Webinar, April 27, 2021