

Press Release

# Six Akerman Lawyers Selected Among *Lawdragon's* 500 Leading Dealmakers in America

October 25, 2023

Top national law firm Akerman is pleased to announce that six of its partners have been featured among *Lawdragon's* 500 Leading Dealmakers in America for 2024, which recognizes lawyers that changed the course of industries, sometimes on a global scale, through their advice on complex dealmaking during the past year – from IPOs and transportation mergers to distressed finance and life sciences funding.

This is *Lawdragon's* fourth guide to the nation's top dealmakers. The list is created through submissions and original research into the lawyers leading the biggest and most impactful deals of the prior year. They are vetted by an editorial board of their peers.

The Akerman lawyers recognized by *Lawdragon* are:

Jonathan Awner, Co-Chair, Corporate Practice Group

Ranked by *Best Lawyers in America*, *Chambers USA*, and *The Legal 500* as a preeminent corporate lawyer, Awner advises clients in transactions in automotive retail, aviation, distribution, hospitality, logistics, manufacturing, services, technology, and other industries.

David Birke, Co-Chair, Corporate Practice Group

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## Related People

Jonathan L. Awner  
David F. Birke  
Esther L. Moreno  
Stephen K. Roddenberry  
Carl D. Roston  
Christina C. Russo

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## Related Work

Corporate  
M&A and Private Equity

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## Related Offices

Fort Lauderdale  
Miami

Birke's practice focuses on representing private equity funds, family offices and their portfolio companies in complex acquisitions, divestitures, recapitalizations, restructurings, growth capital investments, and debt and equity financings.

Esther Moreno, Co-Chair, Capital Markets Practice

With broad-ranging experience advising public and private companies, including real estate investment trusts (REITS), Moreno focuses her practice on complex and innovative capital markets transactions, disclosure and corporate governance matters, and M&A transactions.

Stephen Roddenberry, Corporate Partner

Veteran dealmaker Roddenberry advises clients in corporate compliance and governance issues, public and private securities transactions, mergers and acquisitions, and private equity investments. Described as a "masterful strategist" by *Chambers USA*, he has built longstanding relationships with many of Akerman's most noteworthy clients.

Carl Roston, Co-Chair Emeritus, Corporate Practice Group

Ranked as top tier by *Chambers USA* for Corporate/M&A & Private Equity, Roston represents private equity funds, private companies and large family offices in acquisitions, leveraged buyouts, recapitalizations, joint ventures, co-investments, and growth capital investments.

Christina Russo, Co-Chair, Capital Markets Practice

With extensive experience representing public and private companies, Russo routinely advises clients on corporate and securities matters, and mergers and acquisitions. Russo also counsels boards and senior management on a variety of corporate governance matters, including Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) matters.

## About Akerman

Akerman LLP is a top 100 U.S. law firm recognized among the most forward-thinking firms in the industry by *Financial Times*. Its more than 700 lawyers and business professionals collaborate with the world's most successful enterprises and entrepreneurs