



## Chris Delfino

**Partner – Corporate Law, Nonprofit Tax-Exempt Organizations, Higher Education**

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Chris Delfino has developed a successful practice serving as general and corporate counsel to numerous businesses and nonprofit/tax-exempt organizations.

He advises these organization's boards of directors and officers on corporate governance, fiduciary duties and conflict of interest matters. He also is lead counsel on a wide variety of transactional matters including mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, corporate finance and complex commercial agreements. Chris brings business-oriented approaches and solutions to the legal and transactional matters facing his clients. He works hard to understand his clients' business, goals, strategy and vision. In doing so, Chris has become a trusted advisor and a critical resource for his clients' management teams.

Chris started his legal career in Washington, D.C. in the General Counsel's office of the U.S. Department of Commerce working with and assisting the former communist countries in Central and Eastern Europe in their transition from a centrally planned to a market-based economy. This experience taught Chris the value and significance of long-term planning and strategy coupled with the importance of executing the immediate elements of the plan in order to achieve the long-term strategy. In addition, after the experiences negotiating with both the communist country governments and the US Government, there is very little that surprises Chris when it comes to negotiating deals for clients.

## Professional Affiliations

### Professional, Community and Pro Bono Involvement

- ▶ Second Vice Chair and Member of Executive Committee and Board of Directors, Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
- ▶ Chair, Governance Committee and Member, Board of Directors, Downtown Sacramento Partnership
- ▶ Member, Board of Directors, Impact Foundry
- ▶ Member, International Advisory Board, McGeorge School of Law, University of the Pacific
- ▶ Senior Fellow, Class XIV, American Leadership Forum, Mountain Valley Chapter
- ▶ Former Co-Chair, California State Bar Corporations Committee

### Honors and Rankings

- ▶ Selected to Best of the Bar, Corporate Attorney, Sacramento Business Journal 2013, 2014 and 2015
- ▶ Selected to Top Lawyers List for Business/Corporate Lawyers, Sacramento Magazine, 2015
- ▶ Awarded Business Volunteer of the Year, Sacramento Arts and Business Council, 2005

## **Education**

- ▶ LL.M., The George Washington University Law School, 1996
- ▶ J.D., University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, 1993
- ▶ B.A., University of California at Davis, 1989

## **Bar Admissions**

- ▶ California, 1993
- ▶ District of Columbia, 1994, Inactive

Chris Delfino provides counsel to Boards of Regents and university and college administrators on corporate governance, including advice regarding shared governance. Higher education institutions seek his expertise on nonprofit corporate and tax-exempt compliance matters including the proper handling of potential conflict of interest and excess benefit issues.

Chris also advises institutes of higher education in the negotiation and drafting of all manner of agreements including vendor and contractor agreements, joint venture agreements, affiliation agreements, grants, software implementation agreements and licensing agreements.