
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Contact: Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP**Brad S. Karp, Chairman / 212-373-3316 / bkarp@paulweiss.comXenia Kobylarz, Communications Director / 212-373-2469 / xkobylarz@paulweiss.com**LEADING M&A PARTNERS JOIN PAUL, WEISS**

New York, November 1, 2021– Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP announced today that Gerald Brant and Jeffrey Lazar Kochian have joined the firm as partners in the Corporate Department in New York. Mr. Brant and Mr. Kochian have both advised on high-profile public and private mergers and acquisitions, as well as on shareholder activism and other corporate governance matters.

“We are thrilled to welcome Gerald and Jeff, two talented and widely respected lawyers, to our partnership,” said Paul, Weiss chairman Brad S. Karp. “Gerald and Jeff have advised on the most complex deals for leading public companies and private equity firms and their portfolio companies. They will be an enormous asset to our clients and our firm.”

“We have worked with Gerald and Jeff on numerous transactions, and we have great respect and admiration for their work,” said Taurie M. Zeitzer, global co-chair of Paul, Weiss’s mergers and acquisitions practice. “They are smart, commercial and client-focused M&A lawyers and we are very happy to have them join our team.”

“We couldn’t be more excited by the opportunity to join Paul, Weiss’s superb corporate practice,” Mr. Kochian said. “Paul, Weiss is handling business-critical transactions that make headlines and drive fantastic results for clients.”

“It is an excellent time to be joining a practice that is first-rate and still growing exponentially,” Mr. Brant said. “I admire the stellar corporate practice that Paul, Weiss has built and am thrilled to become a part of the firm’s continued success.”

Mr. Kochian is an accomplished attorney who advises on public and private mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, debt and equity arrangements, and other complex transactions. He also provides ongoing compliance and strategic advice to clients on a full spectrum of corporate matters, including in connection with fiduciary duties, corporate governance and shareholder activism.

Mr. Kochian has been recognized by *Chambers USA* for Corporate/M&A: Shareholder Activism and is ranked as Highly Regarded for Corporate/M&A nationally. He has also been recognized by *The Legal 500 U.S.* in numerous categories, including M&A: Large Deals (\$1bn+); M&A/Corporate and Commercial: Corporate Governance; Shareholder Activism: Advice to Shareholders; and others.

Mr. Kochian is an active speaker and writer on corporate and M&A issues. He earned his B.A. in environmental science from the University of Rochester and his J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Cornell Law School.

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Mr. Brant is a seasoned M&A lawyer who advises on a wide range of mergers and acquisitions, including leveraged buyouts, carve-outs and other private equity transactions. He also advises investment funds and companies on shareholder activism and defense matters. In addition, Mr. Brant represents both financial and strategic clients on a variety of other corporate matters, including corporate governance, board fiduciary duties and securities law issues.

Mr. Brant has been recognized by *The Legal 500 U.S.* for M&A: Large Deals (\$1bn+) and Shareholder Activism: Advice to Shareholders. He is also a frequent media commentator and author on M&A and shareholder activism topics.

Mr. Brant earned his B.A. in economics and mathematics from Columbia University, *magna cum laude*, and his J.D. from Columbia Law School.

About Paul, Weiss

Paul, Weiss (paulweiss.com) is a firm of more than 1,000 lawyers with diverse backgrounds, personalities, ideas and interests who provide innovative and effective solutions to our clients' most complex legal and business challenges. We take great pride in representing the world's leading companies in their critical legal matters and most significant business transactions, as well as individuals and organizations in need of pro bono assistance.

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