

Rising Star: Paul Weiss' Andrew Krause

By Al Barbarino

Law360 (July 26, 2023, 1:29 PM EDT) -- Andrew Krause of Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison LLP has represented General Electric on every step of its long unwinding, Amazon on its \$1.7 billion iRobot and \$3.9 billion One Medical acquisitions, and Qualcomm on its \$4.5 billion purchase of Veoneer with SSW Partners, earning him a spot among the mergers and acquisitions practitioners under age 40 honored by Law360 Rising Stars.

WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST CASE/DEAL OF YOUR CAREER, AND WHAT WAS CHALLENGING ABOUT IT?

Krause cited his work counseling General Electric Co. on the unwinding of its various business units as the biggest set of deals he's been involved in. He was part of the team that represented GE on the February 2019 sale of its biopharma business, as well as the subsequent sale of the company's jet aircraft leasing business and the spinoff of its health care business. He will also represent GE on the yet-to-be-completed spinoff of its power division, GE Vernova.

"It's been a series of transactions over several years that has split what was one of America's greatest and largest companies into separate components," Krause said. "Each of those deals had their own challenges, many of which were presented by the sheer size of the separations."

WHAT'S THE BIGGEST OR MOST INTERESTING CASE/DEAL YOU'VE WORKED ON LATELY, AND WHAT MADE IT SO INTERESTING?

Krause advised Amazon on its two recent public company purchases, the acquisition of One Medical and also the pending acquisition of iRobot. He noted that the two deals were signed only 15 days apart, which he said made the experience particularly interesting.

"It's somewhat unusual for one company to be acquiring two other companies so close together in time," he said. "We negotiated both agreements and coordinated two very large deal teams on behalf of our client more or less at the same time."



Andrew Krause
Paul Weiss

Age: 37
Home base: New York City
Position: Partner
Law school: New York University School of Law
First job after law school: M&A associate at Davis Polk

WHAT'S YOUR PROUDEST MOMENT AS AN ATTORNEY?

Krause said he takes pride in helping train junior lawyers and seeing them develop their problem-solving skills over time.

"Sometimes when you're doing that, you can just see the moment when they catch on to something and it clicks for them. It's really exciting to be part of that moment and be part of their learning process," he said. "I remember when I was a junior attorney, what it felt like to have those moments and have the light bulb go off and realize that you're catching on and learning."

WHY ARE YOU AN M&A ATTORNEY?

The pacing of M&A deals and the problem-solving involved drew Krause to the practice and have kept him with it, he said.

"I love the fast pace of M&A transactions," Krause said. "It means that there's new and different things that you're doing every single day, and it never gets old or boring."

Krause said he enjoys helping clients come up with creative solutions to problems, not only solving their problem but also providing a solution that the other side of a deal will accept. "And that's when you have a deal," Krause said.

HOW DO YOU THINK YOUR PRACTICE OR THE LEGAL INDUSTRY WILL CHANGE IN THE NEXT 10 YEARS?

"As a corporate lawyer, you're living in a constant state of change," Krause said. He has a close eye on the current antitrust regulatory environment and how that could change over time, he said. Artificial intelligence is also a factor that could change how companies make business decisions and how attorneys do their work in the future, he said.

"It's very much in its infancy right now, but it's starting to have an impact on our work, more so on junior or administrative tasks, like contract review," he said. "But it will be interesting to see how it will impact other things, like drafting documents and legal analysis."

— *As told to Al Barbarino.*

Law360's Rising Stars are attorneys under 40 whose legal accomplishments belie their age. A team of Law360 editors selected the 2023 Rising Stars winners after reviewing more than 1,350 submissions. Attorneys had to be under 40 as of May 1, 2023, to be eligible for this year's award. This interview has been edited and condensed.