



Trenton C. Dykes

Partner

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Trent Dykes concentrates in securities and corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions and general corporate law.

His experience ranges from advising startup companies about formation and venture financings to representing public companies with SEC compliance, corporate governance and other related issues. Trent has worked on numerous initial and secondary public offerings and hundreds of seed and venture financings. Trent also advises clients on securities law compliance related to emerging financing trends, such as incubation strategies, convertible securities (such as SAFEs and KISSes) and initial coin offerings (ICOs), token generation events or similar distributed ledger or blockchain-enabled means for raising capital. His clients include individual entrepreneurs, early stage, venture-backed and public companies and venture capital investors.

Trent is an editor and contributor to The Venture Alley, a blog about business and legal issues important to entrepreneurs, startups, venture capitalists and angel investors.

Trent is the Seattle Office Hiring Partner and a member of the firm's National Leadership Group of the US Emerging Growth and Venture Capital practice.

EXPERIENCE

TRANSACTIONAL EXPERIENCE

SELECTED PUBLIC AND PRIVATE FINANCINGS

- Starbucks Corporation US\$550 million public debt offering
- Northstar Neuroscience US\$120 million initial public offering of common stock
- Imperium Renewables US\$120 million Series B financing
- Trupanion US\$82 million initial public offering of common stock
- Arivale US\$36 million Series A financing
- Pinkberry US\$17 million Series B financing

RELATED SERVICES

- Corporate
- Mergers and Acquisitions
- Emerging Growth and Venture Capital
- Public Company and Corporate Governance
- Employment
- Private Equity
- Capital Markets
- Finance
- Debt Finance
- Tax

RELATED SECTORS

- Life Sciences
- Technology

- MediQuest Therapeutics US\$16 million Series A financing
- Trupanion US\$15.25 million Series C financing
- Generic Medical Devices US\$14 million Series A financing
- Botanical Laboratories US\$10.5 million debt financing
- icebrg US\$10 million Series A financing
- Micronics US\$6 million Series C financing
- PokitDok US\$4.3 million Series A financing and US\$34 million Series B financing
- Integris Software US\$3 million Series Seed financing

SELECTED MERGERS AND ACQUISITIONS

- Sale of PopCap Games to Electronic Arts
- Sale of CitizenHawk to CT Corporation, a Wolters Kluwer business
- Sale of Clipboard to salesforce.com
- Sale of Noetix to Silverback Enterprise Group
- Sale of Botanical Laboratories to Schwabe North America
- Sale of Micronics to Sony
- Sale of Pinkberry to Kahala Brands
- Acquisition of ZipZapPlay by PopCap Games
- Sale of Northstar Neuroscience assets to St. Jude Medical
- Acquisition of Jaros Technologies by Noetix
- Sale of Kinetix Living to Regence BlueShield
- Sale of Pacific Edge Software to Serena Software
- Sale of NetMotion Wireless to Padcom
- Sale of Topline Solutions to NaviMedix
- Sale of Scout Analytics to ServiceSource International

Trent represents or has represented such companies as:

- Amazon.com
- American Giant
- Array Health Solutions
- Arivale
- Boston Consulting Group
- Botanical Laboratories
- Clipboard
- Experiment.com
- Generic Medical Devices
- Healionics
- Imperium Renewables
- Integris Software
- Kinetix Living
- MedBridge
- Micronics
- Midfin Systems
- Neah Power Systems

- NetMotion Wireless
- Noetix
- Northstar Neuroscience
- Pacific Edge Software
- Pinkberry
- Pluto VR
- Pokitdok
- PopCap Games
- Scout Analytics
- Starbucks
- Trupanion
- uZoom
- Versium Analytics
- Wellzio
- Whitepages

Trent represents or has represented such venture capital firms and investment banks as:

- Barclays
- Ignition Partners
- Madrona
- Maveron
- Polaris Ventures
- RBC Capital Markets
- Sigma Partners
- Stifel
- The Grosvenor Funds

CREDENTIALS

Admissions

- Washington

Recognitions

Trent has been recognized as a leading corporate attorney in publications such as *Chambers USA*, *Legal500* and *Super Lawyers*.

Chambers USA noted that "[clients] say he is 'focused, incredibly smart and talented,' adding: 'He's a great teacher who takes the time to clearly explain complicated issues in a way that we understand and appreciate.'" "[One] source describes him as 'spectacular—he's extraordinarily efficient, he doesn't waste my time, and he works to save money for us. He's super smart and well respected in the industry.'" "[A] source reported: 'I've never worked with someone who's so efficient, productive and understands what startups are trying to do.'"

The Legal 500 United States, in their Venture Capital and Emerging Companies practice area, noted he "is one of the foremost practitioners in the Seattle market," and clients have praised him as "'the best' [and] 'efficient', [having] 'strong market knowledge.'" Furthermore they have called him "a 'great negotiator' [who is] 'analytical' and 'can do the numbers.'"

Washington Super Lawyer magazine has named Trent a "Super Lawyer" since in 2014, and previously he was named a "Rising

Star" from 2009 through 2013.

Prior Experience

Prior to joining DLA Piper, Trent worked at Washington Research Foundation Capital and Summit Law Group.

Education

- J.D., University of Washington
- B.A., University of Washington
cum laude
Finance
- Harvard Business School
Executive Education, DLA Piper Leadership Program

INSIGHTS

Publications

- Contributing author in Steven Dresner's book "Crowdfunding: A Guide to Raising Capital on the Internet," *Bloomberg Financial Series*, 2014
- "Demo Days, Pitch Events and the New Reg D," *The Venture Alley*, September 23, 2013
- "In re Trados: What Happens When Common Gets Nothing?," *The Venture Alley*, August 16, 2013
- "Understanding Section 280G and Golden Parachute Payments," *The Venture Alley*, September 5, 2012
- "Choice of Entity: Five Items to Consider When Choosing Your Startup Entity Structure," *The Venture Alley*, July 6, 2012
- "Establishing Fair Market Value for Purposes of Section 409A and Stock Option Grants," *The Venture Alley*, March 9, 2012
- "Delaware Franchise Tax Due March 1: Two Methods of Calculation, Two Vastly Different Results," *The Venture Alley*, February 1, 2012

Events

- "Avoid the Blame and (Some of) the Chaos: Anticipate and Address Common Deal Killers," Association of Corporate Counsel Washington State chapter seminar, Seattle, November 7, 2012
- "VC Due Diligence Basics: How to Conduct Investor-Side Due Diligence," Entrepreneurial Law Clinic, University of Washington School of Law, October 17, 2012
- "Back to the Money Game: M&A as an Exit Strategy," Gamer Technology Law Conference, Law Seminars International, October 5, 2012
- "Legal Issues for Startups: 10 Things You Need to Know," Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship Business Plan Competition, University of Washington Foster Business School, February 9, 2012

NEWS

MEDIA MENTIONS

- Quoted in, "This tech entrepreneur has a novel policy to deter sexual harassment," *The Washington Post*, August 3, 2017