

# Christian Nagler



Kirkland & Ellis LLP's Christian O. Nagler tackled a number of major special-purpose acquisition company transactions, including advising a Volvo unit on its \$890 million combination with SPAC Gores Guggenheim — one of the biggest SPAC transactions ever — landing him a spot as one of Law360's 2022 Capital Markets MVPs.

*"I like helping people in a collaborative manner achieving what both sides want to achieve in a transaction."*

## His biggest accomplishment this year:

Nagler advised Polestar Performance AB, an electric performance car company owned by Volvo, in its business combination with Gores Guggenheim Inc., a transaction that has a \$22 billion market capitalization and generated \$890 million for the company, according to Kirkland. He also advised another SPAC, Investindustrial Acquisition Corp., on its \$2.9 billion merger with

Ermenegildo Zegna Group, a move that led to Zegna becoming a public company on the New York Stock Exchange, the firm said.

Nagler said his biggest accomplishment was bringing a number of companies to the public markets in the United States.

Zegna is a high-profile, family-owned business in Italy — "one of Italy's great fashion houses," Nagler said.

"I'm very excited to have worked on so many transactions," he added.

## His biggest challenge this year:

Nagler said changing regulations have created hurdles of late, particularly "having to navigate various regulatory challenges posed by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission with respect to SPACs," he said.

Notably, that has meant grappling with shifts in accounting interpretations for SPACs, he said. And it takes more time to get deals cleared, he added.

That said, many lawyers working on these transactions have created a bond "that is only developed when you have so many challenges in the market," Nagler said.

## Why he's a capital markets attorney:

As a child, Nagler considered many career paths, including becoming a physician. Ultimately, he said he decided to pursue law school.

And there, he learned he had an inclination for transactional law rather than litigation. The capital markets specialty allows him to help companies achieve their goals, whether it's raising

debt or equity, Nagler said. Capital markets are an important part of the national arena, he added.

“I like helping people in a collaborative manner achieving what both sides want to achieve in a transaction,” he said.

**His advice for junior attorneys:**

Nagler says new and aspiring lawyers should pursue their interests, whatever they may be.

“Be responsible to both clients and the people you’re working with, and try to approach things in a collaborative manner,” he said.

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