Branden C. Berns

Partner

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T: +1 415.393.4631
San Francisco



Branden C. Berns is a partner in the San Francisco office of Gibson Dunn where he practices in the firm's Transactional Department. He represents leading life sciences companies and investors on a broad range of complex corporate transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, asset sales, spin-offs, joint ventures, PIPEs, as well as a variety of financing transactions, including initial public offerings, secondary equity offerings and venture and growth equity financings. Branden also serves as principal outside counsel for numerous publicly-traded life sciences companies and advises management and boards of directors on corporate law matters, SEC reporting and corporate governance.

Recent accolades include:

- *Chambers USA,* Capital Markets: Debt & Equity (2026)
- *Lawdragon,* 500 X - The Next Generation - Corporate, esp. Life Sciences (2024)
- *LMG Life Sciences*, Life Sciences Star (2025); Life Sciences Star (2023); US Rising Star (Shortlisted) – Financial & Corporate (2022)
- *Euromoney,* Americas Rising Stars – Life Sciences (2022)

Branden's selected experience includes:

Mergers and Acquisitions:

- Quidel in its $6 billion acquisition of Ortho Clinical Diagnostics
- 89bio in its up to $3.5 billion sale to Roche
- CTI BioPharma in its $1.7 billion sale to Sobi
- Alcon in its $1.5 billion acquisition of STAAR Surgical
- Gyre Therapeutics in its $1 billion business combination with Cullgen
- XOMA Royalty in its $739 million sale to Ligand Pharmaceuticals
- US WorldMeds in the up to $530 million sale of its CNS Portfolio to Supernus
- Natera in its up to $450 million acquisition of Foresight Diagnostics
- Mirum Pharmaceuticals in its up to $445 million acquisition of Cholbam® and Chenodal® from Travere Therapeutics
- Assertio Holdings in its $166.4 million sale to Zydus Lifeciences
- Immedica Pharma AB in its acquisition of Marinus Pharmaceuticals
- XOMA Royalty in its acquisitions of Generation Bio, Pulmokine, LAVA Therapeutics, Turnstone Biologics, Mural Oncology and HilleVax
- Alcon in its sale of rights to Alcon eye drops in China to OcuMension

Capabilities

Mergers and Acquisitions
Capital Markets
Life Sciences
Private Equity
Royalty Finance
Securities Regulation and Corporate Governance

Credentials

Education

Columbia University - 2012 Juris Doctor
Brigham Young University - 2008 Bachelor of Science

Admissions

New York Bar
California Bar

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- Rain Oncology in its sale to Pathos AI
- US Worldmeds in its acquisition of Adaptimmune's Cell-Therapy Portfolio
- Natera in its acquisition of prenatal screening assets from Invitae
- CohBar in its business combination transaction with Morphogenesis
- Argenta Global in its acquisition of Midwest Veterinary Services
- Spectrum Pharmaceuticals in its sale to Assertio Holdings
- Concentra Biosciences in its acquisition of Jounce Therapeutics
- GNI Group in its sale of F351 assets to Catalyst Biosciences
- La Jolla Pharmaceutical Company in its sale to Innoviva
- SomaLogic in its acquisition of Palamedrix
- KKR in its investment, with Ampersand Capital Partners, in Alliance Pharma
- KKR in its investment in Biosynth Carbosynth and Biosynth Carbosynth's acquisition of vivitide
- Assertio Therapeutics in its merger with Zyla Life Sciences
- US WorldMeds in its sale of ZELNORM™ to Alfasigma USA
- Progenity in its sale of Avero Labs to Northwest Pharmaceuticals
- WillowTree in its sale to Insignia Capital Group
- eSalon.com in its joint venture with Henkel AG & Co.
- Represented strategic acquirors such as Roivant Sciences, Natera, S&P Global, IHS Markit, Zayo Group, Summit Materials, Diploma PLC, Vail Resorts in over 25 completed add-on acquisitions

Financings:

- *Going Public Transactions (IPOs, Reverse Mergers, De-SPACs)*: Mentari Therapeutics, Korsana Biosciences, Yarrow Bioscience, Damora Therapeutics, Crescent Biopharma, Jade Biosciences, Cullgen, Oruka Therapeutics, Neurogene, Gyre Therapeutics, Spyre Therapeutics, Dianthus Therapeutics, Moonlake Immunotherapeutics, Apogee Therapeutics, Rain Therapeutics, Shattuck Labs, 89bio, Progenity, Forterra, Endochoice, Spark Therapeutics, Intrawest Resorts, Springleaf Holdings, Hilton Worldwide, Mavenir Systems
- *Follow-on Equity Offerings*: Cytokinetics, Damora Therapeutics, X4 Pharmaceuticals, Dianthus Therapeutics, Gyre Therapeutics, Spyre Therapeutics, QuidelOrtho, Apogee Therapeutics, Shattuck Labs, MoonLake Immunotherapeutics, Biora Therapeutics, Viridian Therapeutics, Protagonist Therapeutics, CTI BioPharma, Assertio Holdings, Progenity, Cogent Biosciences, Ultragenyx Pharmaceutical, 89bio, Odonate Therapeutics, Rockwell Medical, Heska Corporation, Arrowhead Pharmaceuticals, Heron Therapeutics, Rocket Pharmaceuticals, Zayo Group, Chimerix
- *PIPE Offerings*: Q32 Bio, Entera Bio, Korsana Biosciences, Longeveron, AN2 Therapeutics, Immunic, Damora Therapeutics, Jade Biosciences, Crescent Biopharma, Oruka Therapeutics, Cidara Therapeutics, Inhibikase Therapeutics, Cogent Biosciences, Relay Therapeutics, Immunic, Shattuck Labs, Viridian Therapeutics, Neurogene, Mirum Therapeutics, Spyre Therapeutics, Dianthus Therapeutics, NLS Pharmaceutics, Heron Therapeutics, MoonLake Immunotherapeutics, Convert Pharmaceuticals, Progenity
- *ATM Facilities*: Damora Therapeutics, XOMA Royalty, Neurogene, Gyre Therapeutics, Dianthus Therapeutics, Spyre Therapeutics, Apogee Therapeutics, MoonLake Immunotherapeutics, Protagonist Therapeutics, Shattuck Labs, Rain Therapeutics, Assertio Holdings, Progenity, Ultragenyx, Viridian Therapeutics, 89bio, Odonate, Cogent Biosciences, CTI BioPharma, Arrowhead

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Pharmaceuticals, Urovant Sciences, Rockwell Medical

- *Venture Financings / Minority Investments*: Electra Therapeutics - Series C, Yarrow Bioscience - Series A, Sling Therapeutics - Series A, Oruka Therapeutics - Series A, Pheon Therapeutics - Series B, AltruBio - Series B, Spyre Therapeutics - Series A, Apogee Therapeutics - Series B, Cullgen - Series C, Perceive Biotherapeutics - Series B, Ellodi Pharmaceuticals - Series B, Structure Therapeutics - Series B, Shattuck Labs - Series B and B-1, Jaanuu - Series B, Progenity - Series B, Hazeltree - Series 3, Waterloo - Series D, Vasaragen Therapeutics - Series A, Bandier - Series E, Levo Therapeutics - Series Seed, Pangaea Holdings - Series B

Prior to joining Gibson Dunn, Branden was an associate in the Corporate Department of a global law firm in New York. Branden earned his Juris Doctor in 2012 from Columbia Law School, where he was recognized each year as a Harlan Fiske Stone Scholar and served as Submissions Editor of the *Columbia Business Law Review*. Branden graduated from Brigham Young University in 2008 with a Bachelor of Science in Economics.

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