Gregory Merz

Of Counsel

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Greg Merz is of counsel in the Washington D.C. office of Gibson Dunn. He is a member of the firm's Investment Funds Practice Group with a focus on regulatory issues, product development and corporate transactions for investment advisers, private and registered investment funds and other financial services products and institutions. Greg has extensive experience with the application of federal and state securities laws to all aspects of the asset management industry, including the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, the Investment Company Act of 1940, Securities Act of 1933, the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, Graham-Leach-Bliley, the USA PATRIOT Act, the Bank Secrecy Act and state blue sky laws. He has been recognized as one of *The Best Lawyers in America*® for his work in Private Funds and Hedge Funds.

Prior to returning to private practice in 2011, Greg was employed in a number of in-house positions in the asset management industry. He was a Managing Director & Deputy General Counsel for eight years at Legg Mason, where he focused on counseling the firm's various registered investment advisor affiliates on regulatory matters, product development and government relations. Greg was also involved in supporting Legg Mason's retail managed financial products (including mutual funds, closed end funds, collective investment trusts, 529 plans and retail separately managed accounts) and in the negotiation and implementation of a number of corporate acquisitions, divestitures and restructurings for the firm.

Before joining Legg Mason, Greg worked at Fidelity Investments for over nine years. While at Fidelity, he provided legal support to a number of different business functions, including portfolio management operations, investment compliance, various international and special product development initiatives, and mutual fund administration.

From 1985 to 1992, he was an Associate in the New York and London offices of a large international law firm, where he was engaged in a general corporate practice with an emphasis on financial services, mergers & acquisitions and international securities law.

Greg earned his law degree in 1985 from the University of Chicago, where he was on the University of Chicago Law Review. He graduated *magna cum laude* from Middlebury College in 1981 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science.

He is a member of the District of Columbia, Massachusetts and New York bars.

Capabilities

Investment Funds
Capital Markets
Finance
Financial Regulatory
Mergers and Acquisitions
Private Equity
Retail Investment Products
Securities Enforcement
Securities Regulation and Corporate Governance

Credentials

Education

University of Chicago - 1985 Juris Doctor
Middlebury College - 1981 Bachelor of Arts

Admissions

District of Columbia Bar
Massachusetts Bar
New York Bar

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