

Proskauer Advises Founder and Chairman of Kobalt on Sale to Francisco Partners

September 20, 2022

NEW YORK, September 20, 2022 – Proskauer, a leading international law firm, announced today that it advised Willard Ahdritz, Founder and Chairman of Kobalt, on U.S. matters in connection with Kobalt’s sale of its controlling interest to Francisco Partners, a global technology and media-focused investment firm. Kobalt is a leader in music rights administration and publishing, representing over 20,000 artists worldwide. The transaction remains subject to customary closing conditions.

Mr. Ahdritz founded Kobalt in 2000 as a music and technology company for artists, songwriters, publishers, and labels as an alternative to the traditional music business model. It has since cemented its place as the top global independent publisher. He will continue to serve as Kobalt’s Chairman following the transaction.

The Proskauer team was led by partners [Ira Bogner](#) and [Justin Alex](#) (Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation) as well as [Robert Gaut](#) and [Amanda Nussbaum](#) (Tax).

About Proskauer

We are 800+ lawyers serving clients from 12 offices located in the leading financial and business centers in the Americas, Europe and Asia. The world’s leading organizations, companies and corporations choose us to be their representatives in their most critical situations. But more, they consider Proskauer a strategic partner to drive their business forward. We work with asset managers, major sports leagues, Fortune 500 companies, entertainment industry legends and other industry-redefining companies.

Related Professionals

- **Ira G. Bogner**
Managing Partner
- **Justin S. Alex**

Partner

- **Robert Gaut**

Partner

- **Amanda H. Nussbaum**

Partner