



Contact

Jay C.S. Tai

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Jay Tai is a partner in the Corporate Department. His practice focuses on private equity, mergers and acquisitions, and complex corporate and commercial transactions.

Jay has extensive experience representing regional and global private equity funds, venture capital funds, hedge funds, investment banks and strategic investors in their investment activities throughout Asia, particularly in China and South East Asia, including buyouts, control, growth, secondaries and restructurings. He has advised clients on deals involving a broad range of industries, including real estate, manufacturing, health care, education, telecommunications and media; and jurisdictions in Asia, including China, Japan, Korea, Singapore and Malaysia.

Jay has been consistently ranked by major legal publications including *Chambers*, *Legal500* and *IFLR1000*. Clients describe him as “extremely helpful” and “was quick in coming up with solutions which were both commercially and legally sound.” He is also commended for having “expertise on the equity and financing side for a growing roster of Asian private equity sponsors.” and “is one of the best in private equity and M&A work.” Jay was identified as one of China’s Elite 100 lawyers (Foreign firm) by China Business Law Journal 2019 and 2020. He was also nominated as “Star Lawyer” by *Acritas* 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 in its esteemed Sharplegal study.

A recognized authority on private equity and mergers and acquisitions, Jay has given speeches at various conferences and client-sponsored events on topics such as "PE Financings - Some Recent Trends and Regulatory Pitfalls"; "Recent Developments Affecting Private Equity Practices and Their Practical Impact" at In-House Congress; and "Private Equity Investments in China - Legal and Regulatory Challenges for Funds Investing in China" at *Asian Business Lawyer's M&A* seminar series. He recently co-authored a chapter on "Trends and Challenges for Companies Doing Business in Asia" for a Thomson Reuters/Aspatore publication.

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Matters

Recent representative transactions include:

- Partners Group in its private equity investments in Asia, including secondary (LP and direct) investments and co-investments, structured through companies and funds
- Schroder Adveq in its private equity investments in Asia, including secondary (LP and direct) investments and co-investments, structured through companies and funds
- GBF on its private equity investments in multiple group of companies in Hong Kong and the PRC in financial technology and consumer sector
- OCI International in the formation of a segregated portfolio fund with a commitment of US\$640 million and its investment in a real estate project
- HQ Capital in relation to the acquisition of preferred shares of a PRC company group in a co-investment with another private equity fund
- RRJ Capital in its private equity investments in Asia and the U.S. involving private and publicly-traded corporations in various industries including:
 - Chenier Energy Partners, LP, an operator of liquefied natural gas receiving terminals listed in the U.S.

- AAB Group China, a Fujian-based manufacturer of diapers and sanitary materials
 - Triplex Biosciences, a medical diagnostics company in China
 - Yi Ping Tang, a PRC-based beverage manufacturer
- Ares Management Asia in its private equity investments in China including exit strategies and restructuring
 - I Squared Capital in its acquisition of a majority interest in Jiaqing Water Services Co., Ltd, I Squared's first investment in China
 - Cowin Capital in its offshore investments in a leading PRC education group
 - Yunfeng Capital, a private equity fund co-founded by Jack Ma, founder of Alibaba, in its private equity investments in China including the disposal of its portfolio investment
 - Peterson Group in its direct investments in real estate and technology companies including investment in a Korea group listed on the KRX.
 - SeaTown International, a Temasek subsidiary, in its private equity investments in China
 - CCB International in its private equity and debt financing transactions involving private and publicly-traded corporations in various industries in China including telecommunications, life sciences, real estate, consumer products and logistics
 - Abax Global Capital in its structured credit and equity investments in offshore holding companies with operations and businesses in China
 - Haitong International Securities Group in its private financing provided to controlling shareholder and affiliates of a Beijing-based medical services provider listed on the New York Stock Exchange.
 - China Development Bank International in its private equity investments in China including its equity investment in JinkoSolar Holding Co., Ltd., a global leader in the solar photovoltaic industry
 - OCBC in its private equity investments in China in various industries including consumer products, education and real estate

- Morgan Stanley in the refinancing and restructuring of its portfolio investment in China
- Avenue Capital in its private equity investments in various industries in China and elsewhere, including the financing and structuring aspects of such investments, with value ranging from \$15 million to \$250 million
- D. E. Shaw in the disposal of a debt position in connection with one of the largest China M&A deals for 2009
- A leading U.S. hedge fund in its investments in equities and bonds issued by government-linked companies based in South East Asia
- A leading private equity fund in the financing of its leveraged buyout in Japan
- A global investment fund in the disposal of its equity interest in a major Hong Kong port business
- A Singapore-based satellite network company in connection with the acquisition of its equity interest by a leading UK private equity fund
- A Hong Kong-listed company in its HK\$1.3 billion acquisition of equity interest in BVI holding companies in connection with real estate development projects in Shanghai
- YUM! Brands in the disposal of all its equity interest in entities owning KFC, Pizza Hut and Taco Bell businesses in Singapore
- Multiple Hong Kong-listed companies in the acquisitions of offshore SPVs owning and developing real estate projects in China
- A leading Hong Kong-listed real estate company in its joint venture with a Singapore government-linked company in connection with a mixed-use development project in Singapore, total investment valued at SGD\$1.5 billion
- A Hong Kong-listed real estate fund in its joint ventures with various other parties for real estate projects in China and Korea
- A Hong Kong real estate developer in its joint venture with a leading Singapore-listed developer in connection with a mixed-use development project in Macau, total investment valued at HK\$1.6 billion

Practices

Mergers & Acquisitions, Secondary Transactions and Liquidity Solutions, Private Equity Transactions

Industries

Asset Management, Private Equity

Market Solutions

Corporate Governance

Education

King's College London, LL.B.

Admissions & Qualifications

Hong Kong

Admitted as a Solicitor in England and Wales (non-practicing)

Malaysia

Memberships

The Law Society of England and Wales

The Law Society of Hong Kong

Awards & Recognition

Chambers Greater China Region: Private Equity: Buyouts & Venture Capital

Investment (International Firms) 2021-2023

China Business Law Journal A-List 2019-2022

China Business Law Journal: China's Elite 100 lawyers (Foreign firm) 2019-2020

Chambers Asia Pacific: China: Private Equity: Buyouts & Venture Capital

Investment (International Firms) 2017-2021

The Legal 500 Asia Pacific: Real Estate 2022

The Legal 500 Asia Pacific: Private Equity 2016-2023

The Legal 500 Asia Pacific: Corporate (including M&A) 2015, 2017, 2022-2023

IFLR1000 2014, 2015 – 2022

Languages

English, Mandarin, Cantonese, Malay