

Christine Lazatin

Senior Counsel, Proskauer

BORN: Baltimore

EDUCATION: Yale College, B.A., English; Boston University School of Law, J.D.

FAMILY: Spouse, Matthew Morgado; children, Xander (8) and Madison (5)

Christine Lazatin is one of the nation's top sports finance attorneys who has advised the NBA, NHL, MLS and multiple sports teams, including MLB and NFL clubs, on acquisition and stadium financings, credit facilities and other complex transactions.

"I've been representing clients in the sports industry for over a dozen years now, during which time I've worn various hats and had my hand in hundreds of transactions," Lazatin said.

One of the projects Lazatin is most proud of is representing Soccer United Marketing in its \$25 million financing with a syndicate of Black-owned banks. "The landmark financing was the first major commercial deal in which a U.S. sports league transacted exclusively with Black-owned banks, and marked a significant milestone in MLS's ongoing commitment to supporting racial justice through economic justice," Lazatin said.

In recent years, her work has expanded to include advice on league expansions and startups, includ-

ing the NHL's arrival in Las Vegas and MLS's launch of its D3 league, MLS Next Pro.

"Christine has blazed a trail for women representing sports leagues, clubs and investors in a wide array of complex corporate transactions," said Anastasia Danias Schmidt, MLS executive vice president and general counsel. "She is a relentless problem solver, a trusted counselor, and a fervent advocate for women in the industry." — LIZ MULLEN

More about Christine

GUILTY PLEASURE: Justin Bieber-themed Peloton rides #belieber

ADVICE TO MY YOUNGER SELF: Believe in yourself. Figure out what is fundamentally you (for better and for worse) and own it. Don't be afraid to stumble. Take risks.

I WISH I'D KNOWN AT MY CAREER'S START: Self-care isn't selfish, and it isn't arrogant to have self-esteem.

ADVICE TO A YOUNG PERSON LOOKING TO WORK IN SPORTS BUSINESS: Conviction breeds confidence, and gratitude builds community. Rise up, rise above, collaborate with others to create something meaningful and authentic, and be proud of it.

CHANGE I'D MAKE RELATED TO WOMEN WORKING IN SPORTS: Flip the narrative — instead of asking what we can do to include more women in sports business, let's ask ourselves what business opportunities are being stunted by the imbalance in the industry and how much industrywide growth will result from achieving better balance.



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our friend and senior counsel
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