



Faiza J.
Saeed

PARTNER, CORPORATE

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Faiza J. Saeed is Cravath's Presiding Partner. She advises public companies, boards of directors and special committees in connection with M&A, corporate governance and crisis management, including takeover defense and proxy contests.

Ms. Saeed serves as a Trustee of The Paley Center, NewYork-Presbyterian, the National September 11 Memorial & Museum and the William Nelson Cromwell Foundation, and on the Boards of Directors of the Partnership for New York City and The Paley Foundation. She is a member of The Council on Foreign Relations and The Economic Club of New York.

Ms. Saeed has extensive deal experience across many industry sectors, including significant depth in media/tech and biotech. Notable matters include advising:

- Disney in its \$85 billion acquisition of 21st Century Fox, overcoming an interloper bid by Comcast to its original \$66 billion agreement; the \$10.6 billion sale of the Fox Regional Sports Networks to Sinclair; the \$3.47 billion sale of its interest in the YES Network to an investor group including the Yankees and Sinclair; the pending combination of its Hulu + Live TV business with Fubo; and its support agreement with Third Point and successful proxy contests against Trian and Blackwells;
- Wiz in its pending \$32 billion acquisition by Google;
- Paramount's special committee in the pending \$28 billion merger with Skydance;
- Endeavor's special committee in the \$25 billion take-private acquisition by Silver Lake;
- Viacom's board committee in the \$30 billion merger with CBS;
- Occidental Petroleum in its \$57 billion acquisition of Anadarko, topping Anadarko's original agreement with Chevron, the \$8.8 billion sale of Anadarko's African assets to Total, the \$10 billion investment by Berkshire Hathaway and its dealings with Carl Icahn;
- Time Warner in numerous matters, including its \$109 billion acquisition by AT&T, its investment in Hulu, its defense against an unsolicited proposal from 21st Century Fox (which was withdrawn), its defense against Carl Icahn and its merger with AOL;
- Thermo Fisher Scientific in its \$20.9 billion acquisition of PPD and its \$3.1 billion acquisition of Olink;

- Precision Castparts in its \$37 billion acquisition by Berkshire Hathaway;
- Buckeye Partners in its \$10.3 billion acquisition by IFM and the sale of its holdings in VTTI to Vitol and IFM;
- Biogen in its \$7.3 billion acquisition of Reata Pharmaceuticals;
- Global Blood Therapeutics in its \$5.4 billion acquisition by Pfizer;
- The Ricketts family in the \$26 billion acquisition of TD Ameritrade by Charles Schwab;
- Northrop Grumman in its \$9.2 billion acquisition of Orbital ATK and the \$3.4 billion sale of its federal IT and mission support business to Veritas Capital;
- AveXis in its \$8.7 billion acquisition by Novartis;
- InterMune in its \$8.9 billion acquisition by Roche;
- Illumina in its \$8 billion acquisition of GRAIL, its proxy contest against Carl Icahn and its interactions with Corvex;
- Hasbro in its \$4 billion acquisition of Entertainment One (eOne), the sale of its eOne film and TV business to Lionsgate and its successful proxy contest against Alta Fox Capital;
- Southwest Gas in its proxy fight and settlement agreement with, and its response to an unsolicited tender offer from, Carl Icahn;
- Scotiabank in its \$2.8 billion acquisition of an equity interest in KeyCorp;
- SPANX in its sale of a majority stake to Blackstone;
- Yahoo's board committee in the \$4.48 billion acquisition of Yahoo's operating business by Verizon;
- DreamWorks Animation in its \$4.1 billion acquisition by Comcast, its acquisition of Classic Media, the formation of Oriental DreamWorks and its spin-off IPO from DreamWorks;
- Morgan Stanley's board during the financial crisis, including the \$9 billion investment by Mitsubishi UFJ;
- Vivendi in its \$46 billion merger with Seagram and in numerous follow-on acquisitions and investments, including USA Networks, MP3.com, Houghton Mifflin and EchoStar;
- Sapient in its \$3.7 billion acquisition by Publicis;

- Terra Industries in its defense against a hostile bid from CF Industries (which was withdrawn), its \$4.6 billion proposed sale to Yara and \$5.2 billion topping bid by CF Industries;
- Pentair in its \$10 billion inversion/Reverse Morris Trust merger with Tyco Flow;
- Lycos in its \$12 billion merger with Telefonica's Terra Networks;
- Starbucks in its acquisition of Teavana, its commercial arrangement with Oprah Winfrey and its investment in Square;
- KKR's board committee in KKR's conversion to a corporation and KKR's \$2.6 billion acquisition of KKR Financial Holdings;
- Quibi in its sale to Roku;
- Amblin Partners in its strategic partnership with Alibaba Pictures and the investment by Comcast, and, together with Steven Spielberg, in its formation with Participant Media, Reliance Entertainment and Entertainment One, and the formation of its predecessor studio with Reliance;
- DreamWorks SKG from its formation to its \$1.6 billion sale to Paramount Pictures;
- The family of Charles Schulz in the sale by Iconix of its interest in "Peanuts" to DHX Media, and in the acquisition of "Peanuts" from Scripps;
- Kraft Foods in its \$2.6 billion Reverse Morris Trust divestiture of Post cereals to Ralcorp, and in its negotiations with Nelson Peltz;
- WuXi in its proposed \$1.6 billion merger with Charles River;
- TKT in its contested \$1.6 billion merger with Shire; and
- Lundbeck in its acquisitions of Chelsea Therapeutics and Synaptic Pharmaceuticals.

Ms. Saeed is a recipient of the American Jewish Committee's Judge Learned Hand Award, and she was named one of the Asia Society's Game Changers of 2019. In 2021, the Jewish Theological Seminary honored her with the Judge Simon Rifkind Award. The Ascend Foundation recognized Ms. Saeed as an honoree in their Ascend A-List Awards in 2023. She also received the Burton Award for Law Firm Leadership in 2023. In 2024, Ms. Saeed was presented with the Paley Center's highest honor, The Paley Honors Award.

Ms. Saeed was designated a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum (Davos) in 2006. In 2007, *The New York Times* named her one of "Wall Street's 100 Masters of the New Universe." *The American Lawyer* recognized her as its 2020 Corporate Lawyer of the Year, a "Dealmaker of the Year" in 2000, 2005, 2011 and

2019, and in its list of “45 Under 45” in 2003. *The Hollywood Reporter* has regularly recognized Ms. Saeed as one of “Hollywood’s Top Dealmakers” and one of the “Top 100 Power Lawyers.”

Ms. Saeed is a recipient of the Outstanding Contribution to the Legal Profession Award from Chambers & Partners (2010). She has been repeatedly recognized as one of the country’s leading practitioners in M&A and media and entertainment by *Chambers USA*, *Chambers Global*, *Who’s Who Legal: M&A and Governance*, *The Best Lawyers in America*, *The Legal 500 US*, *IFLR1000* and *Lawdragon* magazine. Ms. Saeed has been profiled in *Crain’s New York Business* (“Notable Women in Law” (2020), “50 Most Powerful Women in New York” (2017 and 2019) and “100 Most Influential Women in NYC Business” (2007)), *The National Law Journal* (“40 Under 40” (2005)), *New York Magazine* (2001), *Corporate Board Member* magazine (2002) and *Dealmaker* magazine (2008). She is a member of the New York Women’s Foundation, a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and a member of the Editorial Board of *The M&A Lawyer*. Ms. Saeed served on the Visiting Committee for Harvard Law School from 2006 to 2011.

Ms. Saeed was born in Walnut Creek, California. She received a B.A. in Economics and Molecular Biology with Highest Distinction from the University of California at Berkeley in 1987, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa, and a J.D. *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School in 1991.

Ms. Saeed joined Cravath in 1991 and was elected a partner in 1998. From January 2013 to July 2016, she served as Co-Head of the Mergers and Acquisitions Practice. In July 2016, Ms. Saeed was elected Presiding Partner.

EDUCATION

- J.D., 1991, Harvard Law School
magna cum laude
- B.A., 1987, University of California, Berkeley
with Highest Distinction, Phi Beta Kappa

ADMITTED IN

- New York
- California (Inactive)
- District of Columbia (Inactive)

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Bar Association

California State Bar Association

District of Columbia Bar Association

International Bar Association
New York City Bar Association
New York State Bar Association

ORGANIZATIONS

American Bar Foundation

- Fellow

Council on Foreign Relations

Economic Club of New York

Harvard Law School

- Visiting Committee, 2006-2011

The M&A Lawyer

- Editorial Board

March of Dimes (NY Chapter)

- Board of Directors, 2011-2021

National September 11 Memorial & Museum

- Board of Trustees

NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital

- Board of Trustees

New York Women's Foundation

Paley Center

- Board of Trustees

Paley Foundation

- Board of Directors

Partnership for New York City

- Board of Directors

William Nelson Cromwell Foundation

- Board of Trustees

World Economic Forum

- Young Global Leader, 2006

RANKINGS

The American Lawyer

- Corporate Lawyer of the Year Award (2020)
- Dealmaker of the Year (2019, 2011, 2005, 2000)
- 45 Under 45 (2003)

Best Lawyers in America

- Corporate Law (2025-2013)
- International Mergers and Acquisitions (2025-2017)
- International Mergers and Acquisitions: Lawyer of the Year - New York City (2024, 2022, 2020)
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law (2025-2006)
- Mergers and Acquisitions Law: Lawyer of the Year - New York City (2024, 2021)

Chambers Global

- Corporate M&A (International & Cross-Border) - USA (2025-2001)

Chambers USA

- Chambers Award for Excellence – Outstanding Contribution to the Legal Profession (2010)
- Corporate/M&A - New York (2024-2001)
- Corporate/M&A: Takeover Defense - New York (2017)
- Media & Entertainment (Corporate) - New York (2024-2001)

Crain's New York Business

- 50 Most Powerful Women in New York (2019, 2017)
- 100 Most Influential Women in NYC Business (2007)
- Notable Women in Law (2020)

The Deal

- Dealmaker of the Year (2018)
- Top Women in Dealmaking (2022, 2020)

The Hollywood Reporter

- Top Dealmakers (2024, 2020, 2018, 2016)
- Top 100 Power Lawyers (2025, 2024, 2023, 2021-2017)

IFLR1000

- Mergers and Acquisitions - US (2024-2011, 2008, 2007, 2006)

- Women Leaders - United States (2022, 2021)

Lawdragon

- Legends of the 500 Leading Lawyers in America (2018)
- 500 Leading Lawyers in America (2025-2008)
- 500 Leading Dealmakers in America (2024-2021, 2007)
- 500 Leading Global Entertainment, Sports & Media Lawyers (2025)

The Legal 500 US

- M&A/Corporate and Commercial: Large Deals, \$1bn+ (2024-2012, 2007)
- M&A Powerlist: United States (2024)
- Media and Entertainment: Transactional (2024-2017)
- Shareholder Activism: Advice to Boards (2024, 2023, 2021, 2020)
- Technology Transactions (2019)
- Telecoms and Broadcast: Transactions (2021, 2020, 2019, 2017)

The National Law Journal

- 40 Under 40 (2005)

The New York Times

- Wall Street's 100 Masters of the New Universe (2007)

Who's Who Legal

- Thought Leaders (2023-2018)
- M&A and Governance (2023-2007)

A-List Award, Ascend Foundation, 2023

Burton Award for Law Firm Leadership, 2023

Game Changer Award, The Asia Society, 2019

Judge Learned Hand Award, American Jewish Committee, 2019

Judge Simon Rifkind Award, Jewish Theological Seminary, 2021

Paley Honors, The Paley Center for Media, 2024