

PARTNER

Julie K. O’Neill

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OVERVIEW

Julie O’Neill focuses her practice on business, corporate and securities law, and counseling individuals and entities at all stages of the corporate life cycle on a wide variety of sophisticated transactions in the U.S., Canada, and abroad. Julie regularly handles:

- Entity selection and formation
- Private placements including angel and venture capital equity financings
- Limited liability company operating agreements and shareholders’ agreements
- Mergers and acquisitions
- Recapitalizations
- Secured transactions
- Employment issues and partnership disputes
- Licensing arrangements and general contract matters
- Trademark and copyright registrations

Julie has extensive expertise representing start-up businesses, including helping entrepreneurs in selecting the right legal structures for their businesses, securing debt and equity financing and handling ongoing operational matters. She frequently represents clients from the formation stage through multiple rounds of financings and finally to liquidity events. In addition, Julie represents multiple family offices, wealth managers and high net worth individuals, and families with planning, investing and structuring matters.

“Clients appreciate that I’m fast, efficient and make their lives easier,” Julie notes, “things that have come to me with over 35 years of doing what I do. Clients also know that I’m very detail-oriented, a great strategist, and an excellent issue spotter.” Julie also gets high marks from her clients for her responsiveness and accessibility, qualities that are especially appreciated when everyone is under the gun to keep a deal on track and to get it closed before anyone gets cold feet.

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Besides work

Julie is an avid photographer and gardener in her spare time. She is especially proud of her irises and lilies.

EXPERIENCE

Julie has years of proven experience helping clients in many industries including life sciences, medical devices, Web-based retailing, software, healthcare, and mobile applications. She has handled equity financings and M&A transactions ranging from $100,000 to $30M.

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Entity formation and corporate structure, financings, and M&A

- Sale of 75% of a sterile contract manufacturing company for $200M
- Sale of a production services company, including related personal goodwill, for $3.26M
- Financing for an online beauty and wellness product marketing company, including a $2M SAFE and $6M Secondary Sale
- Series A Preferred Stock financing, including two shadow series of preferred stock, raising $9.5M for a consumer health company that identifies, optimizes, and commercializes natural compounds for human health and longevity

Other financings

- Financings for multiple special purpose limited liability companies that buy commercial properties in Massachusetts; amounts range from $2M to $12M
- Seed Preferred Stock financing of $4.4M for a content delivery plug-in application company
- Financing of a Brooklyn, NY based distiller of rye, bourbon, gin and vodka in the amount of $1.4M
- Craft brewery start-up entity raising funds for its brewery buildout, including negotiation of a complex operating agreement addressing competition, conflicts, and other issues of concern to the founders and the investors

AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Boston Bar Association
- Member, Women's Bar Association

PREVIOUS

- The United Way of Tri-County
  - Chairperson, Board of Directors
  - Member, Board of Directors
- Member, Task Force for a Comprehensive Revision of the Massachusetts Business Corporation Law
- Member, Board of Directors, TechSandBox

ARTICLES & TALKS

BOOKS

- Co-author of "The Entrepreneur's Internet Handbook: Your Legal and Practical Guide to Starting a Business Website," the second edition of which was entitled "The Business Owner's Guide to the Internet" and was published in 2008

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- "How to Start a Business in Massachusetts," 1996

ARTICLES

- "Stock Options Basics," Bowditch, 2026
- "Life Insurance, Buy-Sell Agreements, and the Connelly Problem: What Closely Held Business Owners Need to Know," Bowditch, 2025
- "Corporate Transparency Act for Foreign Reporting Companies Only," Bowditch, 2025
- "Corporate Transparency Act – CTA on Ice Once Again," Bowditch, 2025
- "Corporate Transparency Act – Yes, it's Back, but no Fines or Penalties for Now," Bowditch, 2025
- "Corporate Transparency Act – It's Back!," Bowditch, 2025
- "Corporate Transparency Act – Potential Action by the Legislature," Bowditch, 2025
- "Corporate Transparency Act Filings Remain Voluntary," Bowditch, 2025
- "Corporate Transparency Act – Supreme Court Allows Enforcement of the Corporate Transparency Act (CTA)," Bowditch, 2025
- "Corporate Transparency Act – Further Action by the Fifth Circuit," Bowditch, 2025
- "Corporate Transparency Act Brought to the Supreme Court," Bowditch, 2025
- "Corporate Transparency Act Once Again in Flux" Bowditch, 2024
- "Texas Court Halts Corporate Transparency Act Nationwide" Bowditch, 2024
- "Issuing Stock Options? Be Careful!," Bowditch, 2024
- "Starting a Start-Up? Here's One More Thing You Need to Know: The 83(b) Election," Bowditch, 2023
- "Keeping your business viable in the event of a divorce," *Worcester Business Journal*, 2020
- "The New Crowdfunding Rules: Will They Really Help Startups?" Xconomy, 2016
- Author of the article "Rule 144 and Restricted Stock," which appeared in *International Securities Law and Regulation*, Editors Dennis Campbell and Robert A. Solomon, published by Transnational Publishers, Inc. in 2000 under the auspices of the Center for International Legal Studies in Salzburg, Austria

TALKS

- How Startup Equity Works – Webinar with Q&A, WorcLab, 2020
- Formation & Financing, Start Me Up Legal Conference, Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce and Bowditch, 2019

BAR ADMISSIONS

- Massachusetts
- New York

EDUCATION

- J.D., *cum laude*, Boston College Law School

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- B.A., Yale University

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