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## Bank Mergers and Acquisitions

The Banking and Financial Institutions Groups' bank mergers and acquisition practice focuses on strategic and financial acquisitions and combinations in the community banking industry. Our work goes beyond the negotiation and documentation of the transactions at issue. In many cases, we guide clients in identifying and evaluating appropriate acquisition targets and suitors.

In connection with these transactions, the documents commonly prepared include:

- Merger, exchange or stock purchase agreements
- Tender offer documents
- Equity and debt instruments for funding the acquisition
- Executive employment agreements and other incentive compensation arrangements
- Specialized securities, such as trust preferred or other preferred stock or debt designed to optimize compliance with regulatory capital requirements

We also prepare and file disclosure documents, including the offering circulars and registration statements necessary to raise funds for transactions in public or private markets.

The Banking and Financial Institutions Groups prepare and file with the appropriate federal or state agency all necessary regulatory filings, including any change-in-control or bank merger applications, and guide clients through the regulatory approval process. Recently, we represented:

- A group of investors in the formation and capitalization of a multi-tier holding company and the subsequent acquisition of a thrift target
- The selling shareholders of a bank in the sale of the bank to a publicly-traded California-based bank holding company while concurrently representing the bank in a threatened Financial Crimes Enforcement Network action seeking civil money penalties for alleged violations of the Bank Secrecy Act
- Various institutions seeking to expand by acquisition current operations by acquisition
- Institutions seeking to enter the New York/New Jersey banking market

To read more about some of our acquisitions, please [click here](#).