



Ben Leese

PARTNER

Ben has extensive experience in leveraged finance matters with a particular focus on private equity-sponsored acquisition financings.



Practices

[Finance](#)
[Insurance & Reinsurance](#)

Education

Nottingham Law School, United Kingdom, Diploma of Legal Practice, 2003

University of Bristol, United Kingdom, Bachelor of Laws, 2002

Offices

[New York](#)

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Ben represents middle-market lenders, investors, sponsors, and portfolio companies in acquisition financings and related debt transactions. He advises clients throughout the entire process of a transaction from structuring to closing and beyond.

Client Work

- Represented a private office/private equity sponsor in connection with the financing of the carveout acquisition of a major domestic fastener distributor (total committed financing between \$250 million and \$500 million).
- Represented a private equity sponsor in connection with the club financing of the acquisition of one of the world's largest providers of communications services to hospitality venues and conference centers (financing between \$100 million and \$200 million).
- Represented a direct lender in connection with the financing of the acquisition of a leading international provider of IT management and implementation services.
- Represented a seafood production company in the negotiation of first lien accordion and revolver repricing amendments in connection with the repayment of its second lien term loans (resulting first lien financing between \$500 million and \$1 billion).
- Represented a business development company and its subsidiaries in the refinancing of their existing credit facilities with a \$195 million term loan, a \$390 million revolving credit facility and \$500 million of senior secured notes.
- Represented a U.S.-based private equity sponsor in connection with the financing of its acquisition of an international U.K.-based recruitment company, and subsequent refinancing of its ABL facility (financing between \$100 million and \$250 million).
- Represented a lender in connection with a business development company's \$100 million revolving credit facility (with an accordion feature to \$300 million).

Publications, Presentations & Recognitions

- “The Global Private Credit Market: 2019 Update,” The ICLG to: Lending and Secured Finance Laws and Regulations (Lending and Secured Finance 2019)
- “Did You Just Commit to a Financing Without Realizing It?,” (co-author) Dechert Global Private Equity Newsletter (Winter/Spring 2018 edition)

Professional Activities

- Represented a New York-based organization focusing on the provision of mentoring and networking opportunities for minority entrepreneurs in connection with a proposed minority investment.
- Represented a community organization formed to reduce the incidence of gun-crime in South Brooklyn in its organizational activities.

Boards, Memberships & Certifications

- “On the Roll,” Solicitors of the Supreme Court of England and Wales (2006-Present)
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Bar Admissions

[New York](#)