



CONTACT

jceleste@duffysweeney.com

EDUCATION

Roger Williams University
School of Law (J.D. 2000)

University of Rhode Island
(B.S. 1997 *with distinction*)

PRACTICE AREAS

Business Law

Mergers & Acquisitions

Real Estate

Shareholders Disputes

Employment Law

Banking & Finance

Hospitality

BAR AND COURT ADMISSIONS

Rhode Island (2000)

Federal District Court, RI
(2001)



321 South Main Street
Suite 400
Providence, RI 02903
Tel. 401.455.0700
Fax. 401.455.0701

www.duffysweeney.com

JOSHUA L. CELESTE, PARTNER

OVERVIEW

Joshua Celeste has a broad-based corporate law practice and is known for successfully navigating multi-faceted business transactions that fortify his clients' businesses and position them to prosper. He works with corporate clients on domestic and international acquisitions, dispositions, and mergers; complex restructurings and recapitalizations; and diverse governance issues. He has handled significant real estate development matters in conjunction with his corporate practice including property acquisitions; project development and construction; and leasing and financing.

Josh has counseled a variety of forward-thinking companies ranging from local, start-up private entities to national, publicly traded companies. He has handled offerings and placements of debt and equity securities, equity investments and acquisitions ranging in value from \$10 to \$100 million, venture capital financings ranging in value from \$500,000 to \$10 million, and revolving credit and term loan facilities ranging in size from \$1 to \$50 million.

"Joshua Celeste specializes in advising clients on international and domestic M&A, reorganizations and debt and equity securities. Clients appreciate his connectivity, saying that he is excellent at identifying opportunities ..." | Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business

EXPERIENCE

Josh has effectively represented clients in the following transactions:

- The merger and consolidation of two significant Southeastern New England waste transportation and recycling businesses that doubled in size, revenue and market share.
- The sale of a leading spring and metal stamping business together with a 120,000 square foot manufacturing facility.
- The successful capitalization of a Rhode Island start-up company in the bio-technology sector through both angel and venture capital financing that allowed the company to successfully commercialize its technology on a national scale.
- The refinancing of a hotel portfolio comprised of twelve (12) hotels by a real estate private equity fund.
- The multi-million dollar private, equity-backed sale of an over-the-counter pharmaceutical maker where the seller stayed active and maintained an ownership stake. The deal involved issues of licensing and real estate at the state-of-the-art manufacturing facility in Rhode Island.
- Three major transactions in New England that expanded the holdings of a hotel ownership and management properties client including the acquisition of: vacant property plus the development and permitting of a 100-room Hilton in Maine; an existing Days Inn facility in New Hampshire; and a 130-room Best Western Plus in Massachusetts.
- An eight-figure stock deal for the sale of a software company with proprietary software for the waste industry — transfer stations, recycle facilities or collection companies — to an Ireland-based company looking to expand its US operations.
- A seven-figure offering of common stock to facilitate research and development and, ultimately, the growth and commercialization of new intellectual property in the field of label media, creating new jobs in the engineering and chemistry space and an expanded facility.
- The acquisition of medical device manufacturing business located in the Netherlands from an international conglomerate.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

According to one source, *"he is a true business partner who makes me feel valued as a client."* | Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers For Business

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JOSHUA L. CELESTE, *PARTNER* continued

COMMUNITY

Professional & Community Involvement

Button Hole, a non-profit initiative governed by The Golf Foundation of Rhode Island – Member, Board of Directors

Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank – Member, Board of Directors

March of Dimes, Rhode Island Chapter – Former Member, Board of Directors

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