

## Christopher S. Connell

### Co-Chair, Corporate, Mergers & Acquisitions and Securities

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Christopher Connell is the co-chair of Stradley Ronon's corporate, mergers and acquisitions and securities practice group. He focuses his practice on the representation of financial institutions, financial services businesses and other corporate clients in various industries in a variety of transactional matters, including mergers and acquisitions, offerings of debt and equity securities (both public and private), initial public offerings, and securities matters for public companies. Chris also regularly advises corporate clients of all sizes in an outside general counsel role, supporting the clients' general corporate law, contracting and governance needs.

### RESULTS

Chris' experience includes the representation of:

#### **Banking and Financial Institutions**

- Customers Bank in connection with its initial public offering of common stock
- Customers Bank in connection with its corporate holding company restructuring and acquisition of Berkshire Bancorp
- Bryn Mawr Bank Corporation in its definitive agreement and plan of merger to acquire Continental Bank Holdings Inc., and related joint proxy statement/prospectus on Form S-4, in a transaction valued at \$109 million
- Valley Green Bank in connection with its sale to Univest Corporation of Pennsylvania
- Atlantic Coast Financial Corporation, the Jacksonville, Florida-based holding company for Atlantic Coast Bank, in its \$48.3 million underwritten public offering of common stock
- Bryn Mawr Bank Corporation in its multimillion-dollar acquisition of the private wealth management group of Hershey Trust Company
- Bryn Mawr Bank Corporation in its agreement to acquire certain assets of First Bank of Delaware
- First Star Bancorp Inc. in connection with its sale to ESSA Bancorp, Inc.

(continued)

### FOCUS

Banking  
Corporate & Securities  
Mergers & Acquisitions  
Regulation & Compliance  
Financial Services  
Real Estate  
White-Collar Defense, Internal  
Investigations & Corporate Compliance  
Common & Collective Trust Funds  
Fiduciary Governance  
Special Situations

### BAR ADMISSIONS

New Jersey  
Pennsylvania

### EDUCATION

J.D., Villanova University School of Law  
B.S., *cum laude*, Villanova University



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- Beneficial Mutual Bancorp Inc. in connection with its \$30.6 million acquisition of SE Financial Corp., the parent holding company of St. Edmond's Federal Savings Bank
- Bryn Mawr Bank Corporation, as advisor, in its multimillion-dollar acquisition of the Davidson Trust Company
- MoreBank in connection with its sale to Bank of Princeton

## **Real Estate**

- served as counsel on acquisition and leasing issues for a major national merchant-builder real estate developer, several regional banks and a computer-hardware service company
- assisted a national commercial real estate developer with the acquisition of a property in suburban Philadelphia and negotiating for the developer on leases with national tenants
- advised several regional outdoor advertising companies on the sale of assets to a publicly held company and on purchasing assets from other regional companies

## **SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS**

- Panelist, "Banking in the 21st Century – Settling into the Digital Age," Association for Corporate Counsel's Banking & Financial Services Law CLE
- Moderator, Association for Corporate Growth's Annual M&A Dealmakers' Panel
- Presenter, "Executive Board Governance – Roles & Responsibilities ... Do You Know What You Don't Know?" Pennsylvania Association of Community Bankers
- Presenter, "Interacting with Our Clients through Technology in a World of Regulators and Scammers," Philadelphia Estate Planning Council

## **RECOGNITION**

- *Philadelphia Business Journal*, "Best of the Bar: Philadelphia's Top Lawyers"

