



Brett Pletcher

ADVISOR

Silicon Valley

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Brett serves as a Life Sciences and Public Companies Advisor.

Brett has a deep understanding of the life sciences industry and an in-house perspective on the day-to-day legal, operational and governance needs of CEOs, senior executives and general counsel. For more than 17 years Brett worked in-house at Gilead Sciences, a Fortune 100 life sciences company, where he was General Counsel for 13 years. He retired from his role as Executive Vice President, Corporate Affairs and General Counsel in August of 2022. During Brett's tenure at Gilead, the company grew from 1,600 to more than 17,000 employees and from \$1.3 billion to more than \$27 billion of annual revenues.

Throughout his career Brett has served as a trusted advisor to Boards of Directors, CEOs, C-suite executives and General Counsel. He is a seasoned attorney and executive with deep experience developing operational capacity, executing on corporate strategy and providing sophisticated, yet practical, legal services and advice. Brett's experience helps clients navigate their lifecycle — from startup through

M&A, IPO and the complexities of being a publicly traded company. Brett's practice at Gunderson Dettmer focuses on advising innovative private and public companies, their executive teams and General Counsel on a wide range of corporate, strategic and day-to-day legal, business and governance matters.

Prior to joining Gilead, Brett was an associate and partner at Gunderson Dettmer from 1996 to 2005. During this time, Brett represented numerous public and private companies, and venture capital investors, across industries. During his career in-house Brett was involved in numerous activities relevant to Gunderson Dettmer's innovative public and private companies, including transactions, governance, public reporting, commercial and compliance, litigation and investigations, operations and sustainability and corporate responsibility.

Brett was a member of the NASDAQ Listing and Hearing Review Council from 2010 to 2016. He has spoken at and attended numerous institutional investor and continuing education conferences at Harvard, Northwestern, Nore Dame, Stanford, the University of Chicago, UC Berkeley, the Securities Regulation Institute and other venues.

Prior to attending law school, Brett was a senior consultant in the Law Firm and Law Department Services Group at Price Waterhouse from 1990 to 1993.

Credentials

EDUCATION

- University of California, Berkeley, School of Law, J.D.
- University of California, Riverside, B.A.

BAR ADMISSIONS

- California

Focus Areas

Corporate Governance & Strategy

Life Sciences

Private & Public Companies

Seed, Venture and Growth Financings

Public Companies/Public Offerings

WEBINAR

Webinar: Going from Back-office Fixer to Strategic Partner

The most common conversations we have with General Counsel and heads of legal in our Executive Advisory practice revolve around how to build their roles and earn a strategic seat at the table.

Brett Pletcher hosts Part 2 of his three-part webinar series, “Building the General Counsel Role in Venture-Backed Companies,” which aims to help GCs and heads of legal assess the challenges in their current roles, identify and develop the relationships necessary to grow their roles and create strategies for building their roles and functions over time.

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WEBINAR

In this webinar, Of Counsel Brett Pletcher along with partners Alexa Belonick and Andy Thorpe will delve into the S-1 process, responsibilities typically delegated to the legal team, and strategies for readiness as an IPO draws near.

WEBINAR

Post-IPO Summit Webinar Series: Everything You Need To Know About Dual-Class Stock.

In this webinar, partner Jeff Vetter and Of Counsel Brett Pletcher discuss the critical issues companies will need to consider when assessing the desirability and viability of a dual-class structure, how such structures are implemented, how those structures are viewed by public investors and the impact of such structures on corporate governance going forward.

Related News & Insights

EVENTS

Webinar: Going from Back-office Fixer to Strategic Partner

EVENTS

Gunderson Dettmer Webinar Series: Building the General Counsel Role in Venture-Backed Companies

EVENTS

Webinar: Hurdles to Building the GC Role and Developing Key Relationships

EVENTS

Webinar: Part 2: What GCs Should Expect Before and After the IPO

EVENTS

Webinar: What GCs should expect before and after the IPO

EVENTS

Webinar: Everything You Need To Know About Dual-Class Stock

CLIENT NEWS

Dataminr Announces \$100M Investment Led by Fortress Investment Group

CLIENT NEWS

Omnidian Announces \$87M Series C for Renewable Energy Performance

INSIGHTS

Splitting the Pie: How Savvy Founders Divide Ownership and Navigate Other Founder Equity Decisions

CLIENT NEWS

Chainguard Announces \$356 Million Series D Led by Kleiner Perkins and IVP

CLIENT NEWS

Latin America Fintech Belvo Announces \$15M Funding

CLIENT NEWS

Gunderson Dettmer Represents Addition and a16z in Base Power \$200M Series B Financing

CLIENT NEWS

Ripple Announces Agreement to Acquire Hidden Road for \$1.25B

CLIENT NEWS

SignalFire Secures \$1B in New Funding

CLIENT NEWS

Dragonfly Capital Leads \$16M Financing of Codex

CLIENT NEWS

AI-Powered Data Security Cyberhaven Announces \$100M Series D Financing

CLIENT NEWS

AIRNA Announces \$155M Series B Co-led by Venrock Healthcare and Forbion Growth

CLIENT NEWS

Coatue Leads \$250M Series E of Enterprise Browser Island