

# Polsinelli Honored at USA M&A Atlas Awards for Leadership in Strategic, Consumer and ESOP Transactions

**(Dec. 12, 2025)** Polsinelli is proud to announce that the firm has been recognized with three honors at the 2025 *USA M&A Middle Market Atlas Awards*. The awards honor value-creating deals, outstanding firms, top dealmakers and leaders across the middle-market M&A landscape.

Polsinelli was named a winner in the following categories:

- USA Strategic M&A Deal of the Year (large market): HCA Healthcare acquires Catholic Medical Center, led by Corporate Mergers & Acquisitions Chair Chad C. Stout and Shareholder Cory C. VanDyke.
- USA Consumer Deal of the Year: Seaweed Bath acquires Andalou Naturals and Mineral Fusion from BWX USA, led by Shareholders David Cykiert and Jason Katz.
- USA ESOP Deal of the Year (mid market): REI Systems, led by Employee Stock Ownership Plans Co-Chair Sean Power.

Polsinelli's **Mergers, Acquisitions and Divestitures Practice** closes deals. Spanning multiple industries, attorneys across the practice complete transactions for private and public companies. The group works collaboratively with in-house personnel and coordinates efforts with clients' investment bankers, local and foreign counsel, accounting firms and other advisers to provide high-caliber, integrated legal advice covering all areas needed for a seamless negotiation and closing process. By taking the time to understand the economic and value-related consequences singular to clients' business transactions, the practice works to protect interests and lead in the navigation of a full range of deal options.

With substantial experience in ESOP-related transactions and post-closing ESOP matters, Polsinelli's **Employee Stock Ownership Plans Practice** is committed to guiding clients through the complexities to reach a successful conclusion to ESOP transactions. Attorneys in the group counsel businesses of all sizes on implementing, sponsoring and/or terminating an ESOP, creating a market for shares of a privately held company or acquiring or disposing of an ESOP-owned company. When business owners work with the group, the future of the business and its owners from every angle.

## About Polsinelli

Polsinelli is an Am Law 100 firm with more than 1,200 attorneys in over 25 offices nationwide. Recognized as one of the top firms for excellent client service and client relationships, Polsinelli is committed to meeting our clients' expectations of what a law firm should be. Our attorneys provide value through practical legal counsel infused with business insight, offering comprehensive corporate, transactional, litigation and regulatory services with a focus on health care, real estate, finance, technology, private equity and life sciences. Polsinelli PC, Polsinelli LLP in California, Polsinelli PC (Inc) in Florida.