

Andrew J. Merken

SENIOR PARTNER

Boston, MA | 617.406.0393

amerken@polsinelli.com



Andrew (Andy) focuses on corporate and transactional matters for a wide variety of clients covering the entire business life cycle, from start-up (formation and organization) to seed and venture stage funding to growth stage (later stage funding, corporate collaborations and buy-side M&A) and ultimately exit (sell-side M&A or IPO). Andy actively works with his clients in all such phases and often serves as outside general counsel to his clients, handling and/or overseeing day-to-day matters including corporate governance, labor and employment, customer agreements, strategic partnerships, tax, IP, privacy and cybersecurity, cross-border transactions, real estate leasing and dispute resolution.

On the institutional side, Andy represents VC funds, angel investors, family offices and private foundations in investing in and/or collaborating with their portfolio companies and also has represented investment banks in public offerings, private placements and M&A transactions.

Andy works primarily with life sciences companies (biotech, pharma, digital health and health care) and high-tech companies but also represents clients in such industries as consulting, real estate, professional services and food services.

Education

- University of Pennsylvania School of Law (J.D.)
 - Managing Editor, Comparative Labor Law Journal
- Tufts University (B.A., *cum laude*)

Bar Admissions

- Massachusetts

Memberships

- Alliance of Merger & Acquisition Advisors New England Chapter (AM&AA), Board of Directors – 2020 – present.
- Boston Bar Association
 - Member of BBA Council (Board of Directors), 2023 – present.

Capabilities

- Venture Capital & Emerging Growth Companies
- Life Sciences

- Chair, 2018 Venture Capital and Private Equity Conference
 - Previous Co-Chair of Business Transactions Section and Corporate Law Committee
- RESI Conference Series (Redefining Early Stage Investments – Life Sciences), Frequent Panel Moderator

Recognition

- *Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly* (2022), Go To Life Sciences/Healthcare Lawyer, 2022
- Selected for inclusion in *Best Lawyers in America*® for Corporate Law, 2017-2026
- *Massachusetts Super Lawyers*, 2004-2012, 2018-2019
- *New England Best Lawyers*

Community

- University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School Alumni Society
 - Board of Managers
- American Cancer Society Eastern New England
 - Board of Directors
- Derby (Tufts) Entrepreneurship Center
 - Board of Advisors
- Tufts Boston Business Leadership Series
 - Chair
- Tufts University Alumni Council
 - Member Emeritus
- Previous Combined Jewish Philanthropies
 - Audit Committee
- Previous Penn Club of Boston
 - Board of Directors

Publications

January 8, 2026

Polsinelli Life Sciences Spotlight - Volume 3 - Turning Insight into Action: A Life Sciences Playbook for 2026

September 11, 2025

Polsinelli Life Sciences Spotlight - Volume 2 - Adapting by Design: Navigating Complex Times in Life Sciences

August 12, 2025

Recent Life Sciences Deal Trends

Author, Life Science Nation Next Phase Newsletter

May 6, 2025

Facing 'uncertainty on steroids,' biotech dealmakers tread more cautiously

Quoted, Biopharma Dive

April 28, 2025

FDA upheaval may temper VC biotech bets

Quoted, Axios Pro

January 8, 2025

Polsinelli Life Sciences Spotlight - Volume 1 - Looking Back, Moving Forward: A Year in Life Sciences