

OUR PARTNERS: KEVIN VELA

KEVIN VELA IS THE MANAGING PARTNER at Vela Wood. He focuses his practice in the areas of M&A, venture financing, fund representation, and gaming law. In recent years, he has represented both startups and investors in hundreds of equity financing transactions ranging from angel rounds through Series C rounds. Kevin has been selected as a Super Lawyer in 2021, a Super Lawyer Rising Star in 2014-2018, a Top Latino Lawyer three times, a Best Lawyer in Dallas by D Magazine three times, including most recently in 2021, and is a Texas Bar Foundation Fellow, an honor granted to 1/3 of 1% of Texas attorneys. Kevin speaks, reads, and writes fluent Spanish, and is able to provide bilingual representation on request.



Kevin is a graduate of the University of Texas, where he earned his bachelor degree in business administration and juris doctorate degree with honors. Prior to law school, Kevin spent seven years in Dallas, working in finance and marketing. Although he began his career working for Fortune 500 companies, an entrepreneurial spirit led Kevin to pursue roles in several startup companies. Later, he started his own business, a test preparation company. Having scored in the top five percent on the GMAT, LSAT, and GRE, Kevin used his test taking expertise to help thousands of students increase their scores and gain admission to graduate school.

Kevin is active in the business and startup communities. He currently teaches Introduction to Venture Transactions at SMU Dedman School of Law and is a part of the Dallas Business Journal Leadership Trust, a network of influential business leaders in Dallas. Kevin is active in promoting a responsible gaming agenda in Texas and is a board member of the [Fantasy Sports Gaming Association](#). He is also a member of [Digital Dallas](#) and is the Chairman of the Board of the [Greenville Avenue Area Business Association](#) (which puts on the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dallas). Kevin is a mentor for [REVTECH](#), a leading venture fund and accelerator, and co-manages [Blossom Street Ventures](#), a Dallas-based venture capital fund.

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Selected Representative Transactions

- » General Counsel to numerous venture funds and accelerators
- » Conducted hundreds of Seed stage through Series C rounds valued at \$250k – \$15M
- » Represented defi SOLUTIONS in its \$55M equity investment from Bain Capital Ventures and subsequent merger with Sagent Auto for an undisclosed sum
- » Represented Modern Message in its exit to RealPage
- » Represented a California-based AI company in its \$40M exit to a private equity firm
- » Represented a Dallas-based senior home care company in a \$13M exit
- » Represented a Dallas-based content platform in a \$49M exit to a private equity firm
- » Represented a Dallas-based software company in a \$12M exit
- » Represents dozens of DFS and Fantasy Sports Companies