## Sidley Adds Team Led by Private Equity Partner Mehdi Khodadad

A private equity team led by Mehdi Khodadad has joined Sidley Austin LLP from Cooley LLP, where Khodadad led that firm's private equity practice. The team consists of Khodadad, partners Josh DuClos and Eric Kauffman, counsel Stacy Crosnicker and several associates.

Khodadad, DuClos and Kauffmann are in Sidley's Century City office, while Crosnicker is in Washington, D.C.

In a release, the firm said Khodadad and DuClos represent corporations and entrepreneurs along with their private equity and venture capital sponsors in matters related to private and public financings, mergers and acquisitions, corporate restructurings, leveraged buy-outs, cross-border and other related private equity transactions. Clearlake Capital Group is a long-standing client.

Kauffman concentrates on labor and employment matters, providing strategic support to the technology and life sciences sectors and their private equity and venture capital sponsors. He advises on a wide array of matters, including transactional matters, mergers and acquisitions (both buy-side and sell-side), financings, spinoffs and divestitures, and corporate structuring.

Crosnicker counsels private equity clients and their portfolio companies on issues related to employee benefits that arise in mergers and acquisitions, and guides employers through the transition of employee benefits. She designs and implements equity incentive plans and other compensation arrangements for private and public companies.