



Robin Panovka

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Robin Panovka is a partner in the corporate group and co-chairman of Wachtell Lipton's Real Estate and REIT M&A practices, which are consistently at the forefront of major transactions in the public REIT, real estate, hospitality and gaming industries. He also advises on governance, strategy and large scale development projects, including the redevelopment of the World Trade Center in Manhattan.

Representative matters can be found at [Real Estate M&A Practice](#).

Robin has been named one of the *Lawdragon* 500 Leading Lawyers in the U.S., and is ranked as one of the leading M&A and REIT lawyers by *Chambers*, *Legal 500*, *Who's Who Legal* and similar publications. He has been featured in a number of publications for leadership in his fields, including [Lawdragon Magazine](#) and *American Lawyer*, and is a recipient of New York University's Urban Leadership Award.

He is the co-author of "REITs: Mergers and Acquisitions," a leading treatise published by *Law Journal Press*, and has authored many articles on related subjects. He is co-chair of the NYU REIT Center and has served as an adjunct professor at Columbia Business and Law Schools and in NYU's Masters in Real Estate Program. He is a founding director of the International Institute for the Study of Cross-Border M&A (XBMA), a joint venture among Peking University, Cambridge and NYU. He lectures frequently and chairs annual conferences for the NYU REIT Center, Practising Law Institute and XBMA. He is also

active on a number of educational and non-profit boards, including the boards of Duke Law School and NYU's Real Estate Institute; is a fellow of the American Bar Foundation and the American College of Real Estate Lawyers; and is a member of the Economic Club of New York.

Robin was heavily involved in the redevelopment of the World Trade Center for more than a decade following its destruction on September 11, 2001 and played a hand in negotiating the master plan and "footprint swap" which paved the way to rebuilding, as chronicled in the [Cornell Real Estate Review](#), *American Lawyer* Magazine and other publications.

He holds degrees from Cornell University and Duke Law School. He grew up in South Africa and Israel and currently lives in Manhattan.

Recent Publications

[REITs: Mergers and Acquisitions](#), Law Journal Press, updated through June 2021 (first published 2006).

[Rebuilding the World Trade Center](#), in Cornell Real Estate Review Vol. 10, July 2012.

[The Real Estate M&A and Private Equity Review](#), co-editor and co-author of U.S. chapter, Law Business Research, London, Sixth ed. 2021 (Fourth ed. 2019; Third ed. 2018; Second ed. 2017; First ed. 2016).

[REITs in 2021](#), January 11, 2021; also available at [Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance](#).

["New" IRS Guidance Provides Relief from Dividend Payment Requirement for REITs](#), May 6, 2020.

[REITs and Covid-19: 15 Key Issues for Boards as They Chart the Course Forward](#), in Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance, May 13, 2020.

[REIT M&A and Activism: Preparing for Threats in the Covid-19 Environment](#), April 6, 2020.

[REIT M&A in 2020](#), January 6, 2020.

[REIT M&A: Use and Overuse of Special Committees](#), Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation, February 20, 2019.

[Cross Border M&A - 2019 Checklist for Successful Acquisitions in the United States](#), in Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation, January 30, 2019.

[REIT M&A in a Complex Market](#), in Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation, June 23, 2018.

[Lawyer Limelight: Robin Panovka and Adam Emmerich](#), in Lawdragon Magazine, January 7, 2018.

[REIT M&A, Governance and Activism - Themes for 2017](#), in Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation, January 4, 2017.

[Taking REITs Private - The Playbook is Back in Play](#), in Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation, October 21, 2015.

[REIT M&A: Much Since 2000, More Ahead](#), in GlobeSt.com, August 31, 2015.

[M&A is 'Wave of the Industry' for REITs](#), in GlobeSt.com, April 16, 2015.

[Only Death, Taxes and REITs Are Inevitable](#), in Premises, Spring 2015.

[Am Law 100 Trio Advises on \\$2.6 Billion Senior Housing Buy](#), in American Lawyer, June 2, 2014.

[Am Law Duo Put to Bed \\$1.3 Billion Hotel Venture](#), in American Lawyer, May 13, 2014.

[Industry Observers Have Mixed Outlook on REIT M&A](#), on REIT.com, January 17, 2013.

[Sixth Circuit Upholds Tortious Interference Verdict Against Auction Loser's Overbid](#), in The Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation, July 2, 2011.

[Silverstein's Army](#), in The American Lawyer, September 2007.

[REIT M&A Transactions-Peculiarities and Complications](#), in The Business Lawyer, Volume 55 Number 2 (February 2000).