

## MVP: Davis Polk's John Amorosi

By *Hailey Konnath*

*Law360 (September 14, 2021, 4:07 PM EDT)* -- Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP's John Amorosi helped steer a Symphony Technology Group-led consortium's purchase of RSA from Dell Technologies for more than \$2 billion and advised Roper Technologies with its \$5 billion acquisition of insurance software provider Vertafore, earning him a spot among Law360's 2021 Private Equity MVPs.

### ***HIS BIGGEST ACCOMPLISHMENT THIS YEAR:***

Amorosi said he's most proud of his team at Davis Polk and how it has managed what he said was an "extraordinary workload under difficult circumstances remotely."

"Serving our clients' interests and needs well under those circumstances is the achievement that we should be proud of most," Amorosi said.

He added that the team also saw record demand for their services, thanks to the Federal Reserve's injection of liquidity into the market, which led to investor enthusiasm "unlike anything we've seen in a long, long time," he said.

"That led to increased demand for our services, both on the financing side and, once that had worked through, on the M&A side," Amorosi said.

### ***WHY HE'S A PRIVATE EQUITY ATTORNEY:***

Amorosi wasn't sure he wanted to be a lawyer when he got out of law school. But he had a burgeoning interest in business, so he ended up selecting an area of law that he perceived to be the closest to business, focusing on developing a transactional expertise rather than working in an area principally driven by rules and regulations.

"It turned out that I liked that an awful lot," Amorosi said.

He said he found that he enjoyed the give and take of negotiations, the project-oriented aspects of the job and trying to help everyone involved achieve an acceptable outcome.



"It's all fun," Amorosi said. He added that the job "grows with you and presents new challenges along the way, which has been fun, too."

***HIS BIGGEST CHALLENGE THIS YEAR:***

Providing effective training and support for the firm's newest attorneys while working remotely has been the most significant complication, Amorosi said.

"The reduced ability of our junior most associates to participate effectively in meetings and learn by osmosis from their colleagues in the office has created challenges in training," he said.

He said that's one of the reasons he and his colleagues are most excited to get back into the office.

***WHAT MOTIVATES HIM:***

Amorosi said his commitment to his colleagues and their clients drives him.

"We all came to Davis Polk wanting to work with the best people in our field and opposite the best people in our field as frequently as possible and on some of the most complicated matters in our field," he said. "Davis Polk has afforded all of us that opportunity and continues to do so."

He added that he takes motivation from many different parts of his job.

"Making a client happy, solving a problem creatively, winning new business," he said. "When you're working on something effectively that's large and challenging and exciting and newsworthy — all of those things are motivators."

— *As told to Hailey Konnath*

*Law360's MVPs are attorneys who have distinguished themselves from their peers over the past year through high-stakes litigation, record-breaking deals and complex global matters. A team of Law360 editors selected the 2021 MVP winners after reviewing nearly 900 submissions.*