# Unlocking the Value of Privately Held Businesses

May 2023



INVESTMENT BANKING

## Who We Are

Cross Keys Capital, LLC is an **Independent Investment Bank** and **Licensed Broker Dealer** dedicated to providing superior financial and strategic advisory services to established businesses in the middle market.

Our senior members have relevant real world entrepreneurial, operational and management experience. The team has an unparalleled understanding of deal dynamics and valuations across various industries, including **healthcare**, **business services**, **industrials**, **distribution and logistics**, **consumer products**, **natural resources**, **and TMT**.

The firm's extensive experience and track record in advising companies across such a wide range of industries is unrivaled by any other middle-market investment banking firm in the nation – **Cross Keys has acted as the strategic advisor for approximately 200 transactions since 2010.** 

With a nationwide presence, our Principals are industry veterans who have worked at leading investment banks including **Goldman Sachs, Salomon Brothers, and Morgan Stanley**. Our extensive investment banking experience helps us understand each client's business and create customized solutions that exceed their goals and objectives.

The Senior Bankers at Cross Keys Capital have an expansive **network of financial institutions and strategic relationships** to help our clients maximize their shareholder value. The experience of our Firm and the Leadership Team affords us **easy and immediate access to hundreds of Private Equity and Strategic Partners**. We have the expertise, resources, and relationships in place to ensure that our clients achieve the best outcome possible.



# Middle-Market Focus

Cross Keys provides its clients with superior sell-side and buy-side M&A advisory services in efforts to help clients reach their personal, financial, and business objectives.

#### Locations





#### **Client Criteria**

Cross Keys works exclusively in the middlemarket. Our typical clients generate:

#### **EBITDA**

## **Enterprise Value**

\$2 – \$15 million

\$10 - \$200 million

Selective preference is given to established companies with long histories of:

- Defensible market position
- Proprietary products
- Quality management
- Diverse and stable customer base

#### **Industry Expertise**

- Aerospace & Defense
- Building Products
- Consumer Products
- Distribution
- Diversified Manufacturing
- Environmental Services
- Food and Beverage
- Healthcare Products & Services
- Information Technology
- Infrastructure
- Insurance
- Metals
- Oilfield Services
- Packaging
- Physician Practice Mgmt.
- Specialty Contractors
- Staffing /Outsourcing /BPO
- Trucking & Logistics



# **Nationwide Presence**



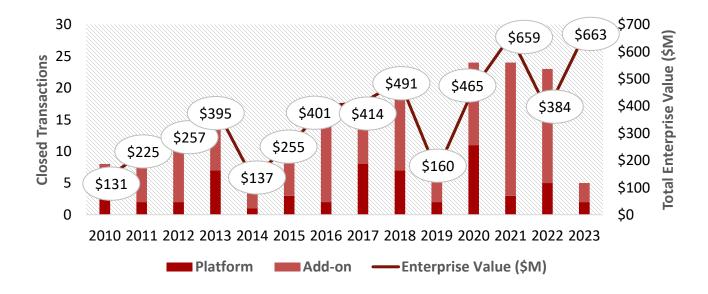


# **Transaction Statistics**

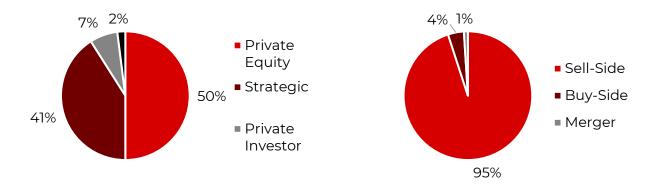
#### Transaction Statistics from 2010 - Present

Cross Keys Capital has successfully closed approximately 200 transactions since 2010. The success in leading closed transactions is a direct reflection of the strong relationships that Cross Keys has built with its clients, the expertise of the Managing Directors and the overall dedication to transactions by the deal teams. Cross Keys has completed 95% of its transactions as the sell-side advisor on its engagements. Our passion for helping small business owners, coupled with the Managing Directors' history of working on Sell-Side transactions, has proven to be a recipe for success. Cross Keys has built strong relationships over the years with many of the financial buyers that are focused in the lower middle-market.

#### **Closed Transactions**



## **Transaction Breakdown**





Following a successful year in 2022, Cross Keys has started the year off strong with 5 transactions closed in Q1 2023.

Despite Covid-19, Cross Keys has successfully closed 72 transactions in the last 3 years, 2020 - 2022.







The undersigned initiated the above transaction, assisted in negotiations, and acted as the exclusive financial advisor to **Seller**.









Following a record year in 2021, Cross Keys maintained its momentum with 23 successfully closed transactions in 2022.

Despite Covid-19, Cross Keys has successfully closed 71 transactions in the last 3 years, 2020 - 2022.









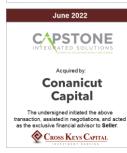












March 2022

Anesthesia Pain Care







KITCHENWORKS



Portfolio Company of

Axxis

















Cross Keys tied its firm record with 24 closed deals in 2021. As a significant player in middle market advisory, CKC continues to show its expertise across a wide range of sectors.



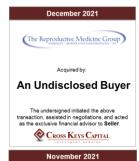


CROSS KEYS CAPITAL

November 2021



CROSS KEYS CAPITAL

















CROSS KEYS CAPITAL



The undersigned initiated the above transaction, assisted in negotiations, and acted as the exclusive financial advisor to Seller. & Cross Keys Capital



July 2021

DISABILITYHELPGROUP

80.

💟 VETERANS HELP GROUP



CROSS KEYS CAPITAL







CROSS KEYS CAPITAL

March 2021



















# 2020

# **Closed Transactions**

Despite the challenges faced due to COVID-19, CKC set a firm-wide record closing 24 deals in 2020.









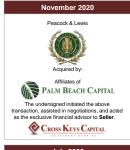


**SkinSmart** 

Portfolio Company of:

HILDRED MANAGE

































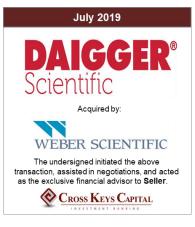


Cross Keys closed nine transactions in 2019. Throughout the year, CKC represented companies in several different industries such as Insurance Brokerage, Environmental Services, and Home Healthcare. CKC also continued to provide its unrivaled advisory expertise to the Physician Practice Management industry.



















# 2018

# **Closed Transactions**

With 22 closed deals in 2018, CKC set firm-wide records (at the time) in terms of total enterprise value. CKC represented firms across many different industries including; Ophthalmology, 3PL, Niche Manufacturing, and more.

























May 2018





















# **Nationwide Presence**

Cross Keys has successfully closed over 70 unique transactions with many notable Private Equity firms.



















SHORELINE











































RedDiamond Capital

















EQUITY





PEACHTREE EOUITY PARTNERS











SourceCapital | LLC





NEW MOUNTAIN CAPITAL LLC

























# **Notable Florida Transactions**







**FLORIDA** 







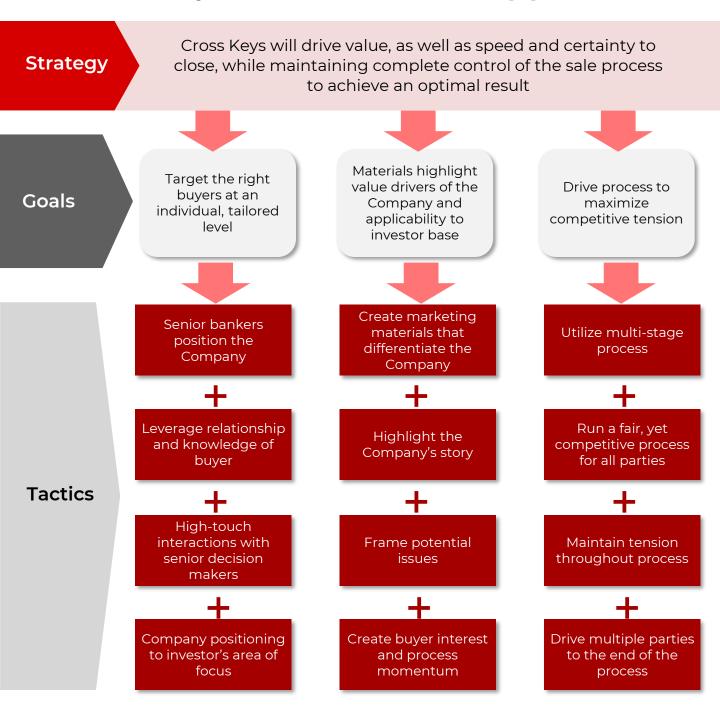




PORT ST. LUCIE



# Cross Keys' Sell-Side M&A Approach



## Avoid Common Sale Pitfalls

- Position projections that are too aggressive
- Communicate too high of value expectations early
- Proceed with the wrong buyer universe
- Narrow field too early
- Underestimate the due diligence requirements



# **M&A Strategic Alternatives**

## Minority Recapitalization / "Growth" Capital

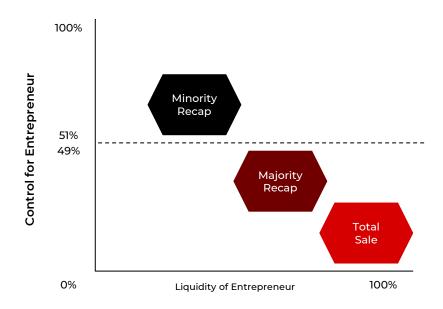
- Sell up to 49% of the company to a financial investor
- Remaining shareholders maintain operational control while receiving significant outside capital to pursue growth initiatives and new product development
- Cash-out 30% silent minority equity partners
- Investors will seek board representation or typical "minority protection" rights

## Majority Recapitalization

- Partner with the best "fit" PE firm and focus on growth, operational efficiency, and profit-maximizing strategies
- "Cash out" up to 80% of equity in Company
- Executive management retains positions with company
- Undergo 2nd "cash-out" (a.k.a. 2nd bite of the apple) in 3 to 7 years at substantially higher enterprise valuation
- Create intrinsic value via a single or multiple set of strategic acquisition(s)

## One-Time Asset Sale / 100% Equity Divestitures

- 100% divestiture of Company Full cash-out
- Potential for ancillary consideration via performance-based "earn-out" arrangements
- 2-3 year employment contracts for key management
- Typical multi-year non-compete agreement





# Cross Keys Capital's Role

- Maximize EBITDA based on knowledge of industry and buyers
- Increase value by creating exceptional marketing materials that highlight key growth indicators to buyers
- Create and manage a competitive process
- Increase multiples based on knowledge of local transactions



Maximize Value

- Market to a significant number of qualified, vetted buyers who have a thesis involving healthcare services
- Narrow the buyer pool before management meetings to those with aligned goals to create efficiency
- Ensure Life After the Deal expectations are addressed prior to closing
- Maintain constant communication with multiple buyers



**Cross Keys Capital** 



Educate & Inform

Lead the Process



- Provide a variety of type of buyers and educate shareholders on the different structures
- Familiarize shareholders with the process and terminology
- Communicate industry and acquisition activity that would affect the transaction
- Walk shareholders through all the offers

- Establish timelines and keep transaction on track
- Manage due diligence documents and buyers' requests
- Update financial information during processes
- Organize and prepare shareholders for meetings and presentations

- ✓ Master Negotiators
- ✓ Trusted Advisors
- ✓ Preferred by Buyers
- ✓ Experts at Closing



# **Cross Keys Capital & Outside Advisors**

Cross Keys Capital is committed to working through complex business, financial, legal, and tax issues with our clients' preferred advisors. We pride ourselves on our ability to help bridge any communication gaps between clients and advisors, so the deal process is as streamlined and efficient as possible.

Many investment bankers tend to take a more hands-off approach with clients and their outside advisors, but at Cross Keys Capital we prefer to facilitate and drive discussions throughout the process. This means our shared clients are in a stronger position when deals close. We value advisors' input at every step of the process.

99

According to a recent external poll of over 150 independent attorneys and advisors, 100% of respondents rank the overall experience

# working with Cross Keys Capital as "Exceptional",

believe that the deal process runs more efficiently with Cross Keys involved, and would recommend Cross Keys Capital's services to their future clients.

## **How We Help Our Shared Clients**

Cross Keys has been helping clients navigate the complex waters of the M&A process since 2002. Throughout this time, we have worked closely with outside client advisors to efficiently meet and exceed our shared clients' long-term goals.





# **Efficient Deal Process**

We provide the following services to enable the most efficient deal process:



Educate clients on the importance of expert advisors and make introductions to key advisors where needed



Establish timelines to keep the transaction on track while managing the buyer's request and diligence flow



Work with key advisors early in the process to ensure good communication on deal points



Coach sellers on the process and facilitate crucial conversations with sellers and buyers



Keep advisors appraised of status with consistent written updates and standing calls



Prepare a reliable financial model and CIM for consistent analysis and use during diligence and Q of E reviews



Provide advisors valuable guidance by combining their direct input with our historical experience



Educate sellers on standard deal terms and processes while managing shareholders' various concerns and conflicts



# **Founding Partners**



Richard Becker
Co- Founder &
Managing Director

#### **Background**

- M.B.A. from University of Pennsylvania's Wharton Business School
- B.B.A. with a focus on Accounting from James Madison University
- Valedictorian of 800-person business school
- Certifications Held (Currently or Previously): Certified Public Accountant, Certified Management Accountant, Certified Internal Auditor, Series 7, Series 79, & Real Estate Broker

## **Experience**

- Has personally led over 100 closed sell-side assignments with an aggregate valuation of \$3.4 billion
- Over 25 years of sell-side financial advisory experience over a broad range of industries
- Past Experience
  - First Union
  - Wachovia
  - Walper, Smullian & Blumenthal



William Britton Co- Founder & Managing Director

- M.B.A. from University of Pennsylvania's Wharton Business School
- B.S. in Business and Chemistry from the University of Richmond
- Certifications Held (Currently or Previously): Series 7 & Series 79
- Successfully executed and closed 75 physician healthcare service transactions since 2010
- Over 30 years of experience in M&A including divestitures, acquisitions, restructurings, and capital raises for a broad range of clients both domestically and internationally
- Past Experience
  - Outsource International
  - Ryder System
  - Morgan Stanley



**David Burns** Co- Founder & Managing Director

- M.B.A. from Vanderbilt University's Graduate School of Business
- B.A. in Accounting from the University of Tennessee
- Certifications Held (Currently or Previously): Certified Public Accountant, Series 7, & Series 79
- Decades of experience in investment banking, operations, and entrepreneurship
- Leads the technology, lead generation and tech enabled business services areas of the firm, along with co-heading industrials and manufacturing
- Past Experience
  - SBA Communications
  - Goldman Sachs
  - Ernst & Young

Bill, David, and Rick joined forces in 2006 and have never looked back on the partnership at Cross Keys Capital



# Senior Leadership / Managing Directors



#### **Roger Schoenfeld**

Roger is head of Cross Keys' Chicago office and is primarily focused on working with privately-held companies located in the Midwest and the Great Lakes area. He is a JD and CPA with over 30 years of legal, financial, and business operation experience in transactional settings.

Prior to joining, Roger was the Operating Partner in a firm that purchased, consolidated, and operated specialty manufacturing companies located in the Chicago area. He also worked as a transaction attorney at Goldberg Kohn, where he represented businesses in merger, acquisition, sales, and financing transactions. Roger received a J.D., with honors, from Georgetown University, and a B.S. in Accounting, summa cum laude, from Indiana University.



#### Michael Shuster

Michael focuses on lower and middle market sell-side Merger & Acquisition engagements for entrepreneurial and family-owned businesses greater than \$2 million of EBITDA. The entrepreneurial skills gained over twenty-five years of owning and operating businesses enables Michael to identify well with lower and middle market companies as an effective hands-on advisor.

Earlier experiences include Executive Management and CFO of a \$60 million lower middle market Logistics and Freight Transportation company, owning and operating a commercial real estate portfolio, and spearheading exceptional growth leading to successful exit strategies for several sales, leasing, manufacturing and distribution businesses. Michael graduated from the University of Miami with degrees in Business Finance and Transportation.



#### Michael Papadakis, J.D.

Mike is a Managing Director having joined Cross Keys Capital in 2023. He has over 10 years of experience in healthcare-focused M&A, having worked on over 100 closed transactions with an aggregate valuation of over \$1B. Prior to joining the firm, Mike worked at Mednax, Inc. where he held various roles in the Business Development and Legal Departments.

Mike earned a J.D. at Columbia Law School where he was a Stone Scholar and completed the Oxford Global Alliance program in Law and Finance. He also holds a B.A. in Economics with distinction from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



# Senior Leadership / Directors



#### **Neil Dhruve**

Neil is a Director at Cross Keys Capital and joined the firm in 2018. Prior to joining, Neil worked at Deloitte as a Senior Associate on the Business Valuation team serving the Technology, Media and Telecom, Energy and Resources, and Retail sectors. Neil received an M.B.A. from Fordham University's Gabelli School of Business, and a B.B.A. from Texas State University.



#### **Victor Kalafa**

Victor has over 30 years of experience in corporate development, M&A, and operations. Prior to joining Cross Keys, Victor served as Vice President of Corporate Development & Strategy at Cross Country Healthcare and as President of two of its business units. He has also served as Vice President of Corporate Development for WR Grace, worked at Salomon Brothers, and helped start a new business venture in the finance industry. Victor began his career with Ernst & Young in New York. He received an M.B.A from Columbia University School of Business, and a B.A. in History from Lafayette College.



#### **Alex Rattner**

Alex is a Director at Cross Keys Capital and joined the firm in 2018. Prior to joining, Alex was an attorney at Fowler White Burnett, P.A. focusing on complex commercial litigation, contract dispute resolutions, and negotiations. Alex received a B.S. in Business Administration and Management from the University of Florida, and received a J.D., cum laude, from the University of Miami School of Law. Alex currently serves on the Florida Foster Care Review's Board of Directors.



#### **Ross Schoenfeld**

Ross joined Cross Keys Capital in 2019. Prior to joining, Ross worked in the capital markets and treasury departments at Avant, where he was responsible for the execution and management of all the company's on and off-balance sheet capital markets initiatives. Prior to that, he was an Assistant Vice President at Monroe Capital, where he was responsible for underwriting, executing and monitoring middle market cash flow loans to private equity-backed companies. Ross received a B.S. in Finance from Indiana University.



## Vice Presidents



#### Jack Bechtold

Jack Bechtold is a Vice President and joined Cross Keys Capital in 2021 from PwC's Transaction Services practice in Washington, D.C. Previously, Jack was a member of EY's assurance group in Baltimore, MD. Jack holds a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from West Virginia University and is a former Certified Public Accountant.



#### **Christopher Gammill**

Chris is a Vice President at Cross Keys Capital and joined the firm in 2017. Prior to joining, Chris worked at J.P. Morgan as an Analyst. Chris currently holds the Series 7, 63, and 79 FINRA licenses. Chris received a B.S. in Finance and Economics, cum laude, from Florida State University.

## **Executive Assistant**



#### **Marjorie Chang**

Marjorie has over 25 years of experience in finance positions with leading health care companies, including Johnson & Johnson and Chiron. Prior to joining, Marjorie spear-headed the growth of a premier boutique accounting and finance search agency in South Florida. Marjorie received a B.A. in Accounting and Finance from the University of South Florida.



## **Associates**



#### **Thomas Psaras**

Senior Associate: Thomas is a Senior Associate and joined Cross Keys Capital in 2021. Prior to joining Cross Keys, Thomas garnered diverse experiences with boutique firms in Private Equity, Investment Banking, Venture Capital, and Corporate Finance roles. He also spent over a year in Wealth Management at Merrill Lynch. Thomas has a B.A. in Finance and Business Management from the University of North Florida. He currently holds the Series 7, 66, and 79 FINRA licenses.



#### **Roy Barnes**

Roy is an Associate at Cross Keys Capital and joined the firm in 2022. Prior to joining Cross Keys, Roy worked at Mednax, Inc. as a Senior M&A Analyst, where he was responsible for all aspects of the deal process including the pre-LOI transaction process, valuation modeling, and due diligence. Roy received a B.S. in Finance, Magna Cum Laude, from Florida State University.



#### Reagan Farish

Reagan is an Associate at Cross Keys Capital and joined the firm in 2022. Prior to joining, Reagan worked within Leveraged Debt Capital Markets at Deutsche Bank, where she managed and grew strategic relationships with private equity and corporate clients. Reagan has broad transaction experience covering M&A, LBO, and cross-border transactions across various sectors including Technology, Media and Telecom, Homebuilding and Building Products, Chemicals, Equipment Rentals, Metals and Mining, Oilfield Services, and Paper and Packaging. Reagan received a B.S. in Finance from Auburn University.



## Analysts



#### Alejandro Chalela

Senior Analyst: Alejandro is a Senior Analyst at Cross Keys Capital and joined the firm in 2021. Prior to joining, Alejandro gained experience in a variety of industries including Underwriting and Wealth Management. He currently holds the Series 79 FINRA license. Alejandro received a B.S. in Finance from Florida State University.



#### **Victor Arocho**

Victor is an Analyst at Cross Keys Capital and joined the firm in 2022. Prior to joining, Victor was an analyst at Eureka Capital Partners where he worked on sell-side M&A advisory for clients in the healthcare industry. Victor currently holds the Series 63 and 79 FINRA licenses. Victor received a B.S. in Finance, Magna Cum Laude, from Florida State University.



#### Juliana Franzino

Juliana joined Cross Keys Capital as an Analyst in 2022. Prior to joining Cross Keys, Juliana worked at Credit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank as an associate where she was responsible for assessing counterparty risk for financial institutions. Juliana has a BSBA in Finance from the University of Miami Herbert Business School.



#### **Andrew Goldberg**

Andrew joined Cross Keys in 2022 as an Analyst. Prior to joining, Andrew held roles at Global Healthcare Advisors, a buy-side M&A advisory firm, and Brookwood Associates, a middle-market Investment Bank. Andrew has a BBA in Finance from the University of Miami Herbert Business School.



# Analysts



#### **Matthew Kelly**

Matt joined Cross Keys Capital as an Analyst in 2022. Prior to joining Cross Keys, Matt gained experience with boutique firms in Investment Banking and Wealth Management. Matt received a B.S. in Finance and an M.S. in Information Systems from the University of Florida.



#### **Guy Levy**

Guy joined Cross Keys Capital as an Analyst in 2022. Prior to joining Cross Keys, Guy gained experience with boutique firms in Venture Capital and Investment Banking. Guy received a BBA in Finance from Stetson University.

# **Cross Keys Capital Accolades**













# For six consecutive years, Cross Keys Capital has been recognized as one of the Top 200 Investment Banks

in the category of boutique and regional investment banks by Equity-Research.com. The firm achieved this honor in 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018. This award demonstrates and seals the notion that Cross Keys has a defined footprint in Florida and has also built a strong reputation that covers all regions of the United States.

Cross Keys Capital has been recognized for its superior performance both at the State and National level. Cross Keys has received recognition at the state level from Florida Trend, the most widely circulated business publication in Florida. This publication has recognized Cross Keys capital as a Top Investment Bank since 2012.

# Cross Keys Capital has also been recognized by leading M&A publications for several awards in 2019, 2020, 2021, and 2023:

- ✓ Top 50 Lower Middle Market Consumer Investors & M&A Advisors by Axial
- ✓ Investment Bank of the Year (Eastern USA) by Acquisition International
- ✓ Recognized Leaders in Healthcare Transactions (Southeast USA) by Acquisition International
- ✓ M&A Advisory Firm of the Year (Florida) by Global Advisory Experts
- ✓ M&A Advisory Firm of the Year (Florida) by Corporate INTL











# **Contact Us**

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