



# Dispute management for early stage companies

## Disputes are part of doing business – managing them is ours.

At Dentons, our priority is to assist clients assess, manage and minimize litigation risk. For early-stage companies, in particular, an early resolution that minimizes risk can be important – so that you can focus on what matters most: growing and scaling your business. Of course, where our clients need a dispute to be litigated, we do that too. We have achieved positive results at all stages of disputes, including at trial.



### Key risks for early stage companies

We regularly assist our venture technology clients with the following types of disputes:

#### Shareholders disputes

You may face disputes with your co-founders and shareholders, particularly if a co-founder leaves to start or join a competing business. We can assist you in identifying these potential risks and managing them if they progress. We help you keep control over your company and your confidential information.

#### Confidential information and trade secrets disputes

Your ideas are key to your success. We can support you and your company when disputes arise regarding the potential theft of confidential information, including by departing employees, and to assess and minimize risk around theft of trade secrets. We have successfully obtained civil search warrants (Anton Piller orders) to protect and recover confidential information.

#### Disputes with competitors

When incumbent businesses see market challengers, they may choose litigation as a business tactic to create risk and distraction for you. We are here to help you manage those disputes so that your competitors don't jeopardize your business.

#### Exit and M&A disputes

Disputes can emerge in the context of mergers, acquisitions, or other transactions through which you may exit the business (i.e. earnout or reps and warranties disputes). We support our clients by managing disputes as they arise post-closing, and are familiar with the intricacies of these conflicts and related dispute resolution procedures (i.e. expert determination).

## KEY CONTACTS



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## Why Choose Dentons

