

Susanna Stanfield

PARTNER | CAMBRIDGE

✉ SUSANNA.STANFIELD@WITHERSWORLDWIDE.COM

☎ +44 12 2367 5061

CLIENT SERVICES CONTACT LIBERTY MARSOM

✉ LIBERTY.MARSOM@WITHERSWORLDWIDE.COM

☎ +44 20 7597 6295



Susanna is a partner in the corporate team.

She joined the firm from JAG Shaw Baker when they merged with Withers to create a new legal offering, Withers tech, in 2018.

Susanna has more than 20 years' experience as a corporate and venture capital lawyer. Susanna specialises in advising both high-growth companies and investors in the life sciences and technology sectors. In particular, Susanna heads the Cambridge office and acts for a number of Cambridge-based companies to help them commercialise their scientific discoveries or technology.

Over the years, Susanna has been actively involved with the British Private Venture Capital Association (BVCA) and its publication of model investment documents.

Track record

A New York based global life sciences investor

Advised a New York based global life sciences investor on a £20,000,000 investment into an Imperial College London spin-out company, VaxEquity Ltd, which accelerated the production of a vaccine to combat the Covid-19 pandemic and is dedicated to developing saRNA vaccines for serious and life-threatening diseases.

Commercialisation of intellectual property

Represented Medovate Limited, a vehicle established to enable the commercialisation of intellectual property generated from NHS Trusts in East Anglia.

Drug discovery companies

Company counsel for a number of drug discovery companies based in Cambridge who are backed by venture capital investors and advises them in respect of their funding rounds, day to day general corporate and restructuring requirements.

Technology commercialisation

Involved in the commercialisation of technology from research institutions such as the University of Cambridge and Imperial Innovations representing founders and the spin out companies as well as investors in this process.

High growth technology companies

Company counsel for high growth technology companies advising them from formation to seed funding through to institutional investment.

Start-up companies

Advises several accelerators providing programmes and early stage investment to start-up companies and have prepared their template documents for these investments and provides support to these programmes.

Series A fundings

Advises institutional investors in respect of seed and Series A+ fundings of high growth companies in multiple jurisdictions.

Talks

- Provided several presentations about key issues facing early stage companies seeking venture capital investment.

External publications

Co-author of the BVCA model documents and drafting notes

Admissions

Canada, 1998

England and Wales, 1999

Education

University of British Columbia, BA

University of Alberta, LL.B

Passed Qualified Lawyers Transfer Scheme

Languages

English

Memberships

BVCA working committee

Key participant of the 2015 industry review of the BVCA model documents and was responsible for the drafting these revised BVCA model document

Key dates

Year joined: 2018

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