

Jason Krochak

Partner, Proskauer

- **Age:** 35
- **Born:** Manhasset, New York
- **Education:** University of Michigan, Ross School of Business, B.A., sports management (Highest Distinction), and Master of Accounting; Harvard Law School, J.D. (cum laude)
- **Family:** Spouse, Carly Ziegler; children, Lila James (5) and Mia Jade (2, turning 3 in July)

EVER SINCE the Supreme Court cleared the way for legalized sports betting in 2018, Proskauer's Jason Krochak has been at the forefront of structuring gambling deals on behalf of leagues, teams and sportsbooks. He was behind The Stars Group's landmark deal with Fox Sports as well as FanDuel's Bell Media partnership in Canada and market access deals for the Cleveland Browns and Columbus Crew. Other betting-related clients have included the PGA of America, the Washington Nationals, Sportradar and Genius Sports.

"I like to say I still have my day job doing all the traditional sports work I've always done," Krochak said with a laugh. "In the last five years, I've led the charge building out our sports betting practice and developing expertise in that industry."

That "traditional sports work" includes representing some of the industry's top properties and deal-makers, with clients including the NBA, ACC, Big East, WTA, Ares Capital, Bruin Capital and numerous team owners. Last year, Krochak represented the Bowlen family trust in its sale of the Denver Broncos for a then-record \$4.65 billion. He's also long been the go-to outside counsel for Major League Soccer, for which Krochak oversaw the league-controlled sale of Real Salt Lake, the formation of the Leagues Cup partnership with Liga MX and the league's last 10 expansion team transactions, including the recently launched St. Louis City SC.

Krochak doesn't reflect much on the breadth of his work, which ranges from team sales to funding rounds to sponsorship deals, but rather insists he's always looking ahead to what's next, especially as the sports betting landscape nears a next wave of deals focused on consolidation and profitability.

"I definitely recognize how these are seminal transactions that are affecting the industry in a profound way," he said. — CHRIS SMITH



- **Best "backyard BBQ" job description:** ABCDE (A Bartender-Chef-DJ Extraordinaire)
- **Advice to my 20-year-old self:** Don't change anything (no regrets).
- **First job:** Referee for youth basketball (during high school).
- **How I relieve stress:** Exercise and eat.
- **Cause supported:** I serve on the advisory board of Legal Outreach, an organization that prepares urban youth from underserved communities in New York City to compete at high academic levels by using intensive legal and educational programs as tools for fostering vision, developing skills, enhancing confidence, and facilitating the pursuit of higher education.
- **Mobile app I could not live without:** Sirius XM; Spotify.
- **Most pivotal decision in my career:** Accepting an offer from Proskauer, where I met my wife.