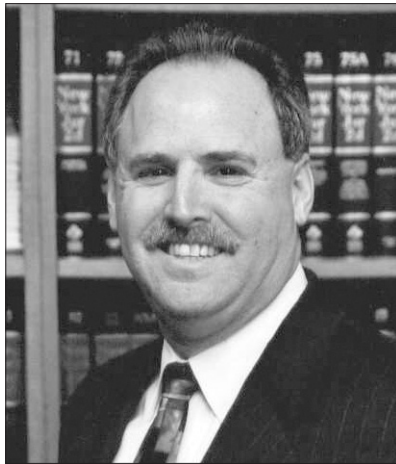


WHO'S WHO | in Corporate Law

IRA R. HALPERIN

*Meltzer Lippe Goldstein &
Breitstone LLP*



Ira R. Halperin is co-head of the corporate law at Meltzer Lippe Goldstein & Breitstone LLP in Mineola. Halperin has extensive experience representing public and private companies engaged in mergers and acquisitions, public offerings, private placements, corporate financing, venture capital investments, restructurings and other commercial transactions.

Living costs coupled with maintaining qualified workers are challenges businesses are facing, Halperin said.

"While the recent increases in the cost of energy and other commodities and the tightening in the credit markets have had, and will continue to have, an effect on our clients, I be-

lieve that the high cost of living on LI with the resulting difficulties in attracting and retaining qualified managers and other employees remains the greatest challenge this year and in the near future," he said. "Good people will turn challenges into opportunities."

Halperin also has substantial experience representing underwriters and US and non-US issuers in public and private offerings of equity securities including initial public offerings and preferred stock issuances; investment-grade and high yield debt; convertible securities and unit offerings. He also represents institutional lenders and borrowers in connection with bank, asset-based and non-traditional financing for business enterprises; and private investment entities in connection with their organization and their acquisition and disposition of investments. His experience includes partnership and limited liability company law.

Halperin also handles general corporate and securities matters including organization of new business ventures, '33 and '34 Securities Acts filings, NYSA, Nasdaq and NASD submissions, corporate governance matters, executive compensation matters, proxy solicitations, debt and equity consent solicitations, confidentiality and non-competition agreements, offshore reincorporation and corporate governance matters.

Prior to joining Meltzer Lippe, Halperin was counsel at Weil, Got-

shal & Manges LLP in NY. Before that he was an associate in the NY office of Kay, Scholer LLP.

Halperin is also a certified public accountant and served as vice president and chief financial officer of several LI and NYC companies.

Halperin earned a bachelor's degree, with distinction, from Cornell University; an M.B.A. in accounting and finance from Cornell University Johnson Graduate School of Management; and a juris doctor, with distinction, from Hofstra University School of Law.

Halperin is a general counsel and a member of the board of directors of the LI Software & Technology Network (LISTnet); and the LI Life Sciences Initiative. He is also on the board of directors of Millennium 3 Partners and the Institute of Management Accountants, LI chapter.

Halperin has published articles on topics ranging from securities law to ESOP's and an expert source in many newspaper articles across the country.

Meltzer Lippe Goldstein & Breitstone is a full service law firm providing clients with domestic and international corporate and securities, tax, labor and employment, litigation, health care, intellectual property, financial, employee benefits, bankruptcy/creditors' rights, workout and real estate legal services. The firm also provides a broad range of personal services including wills and trusts, estate planning and administration.