

In The News

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O'Melveny's Zucker Quoted in Several Publications About Gilead's Deal with Pharmasset

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O'Melveny & Myers LLP Mergers & Acquisitions partner Sam Zucker is quoted in several publications including the *The Deal Pipeline* and the *Daily Journal* regarding Gilead's deal with Pharmasset. According to the November 22, 2011, *Daily Journal* article, Gilead Sciences paid US\$137 per share to buy New Jersey-based Pharmasset, a maker of hepatitis C treatments. The transaction is expected to close in the first quarter of 2012. The article notes that Pharmasset is an opportunity for Gilead, a company known for making AIDS treatments, to expand its presence in the growing hepatitis C market, where there are few effective therapies and available treatments are costly. Zucker, who resides in O'Melveny's Silicon Valley office, advises biotechnology companies on financial transactions. He is quoted by the *Daily Journal* saying "this transaction is reflective of a biopharmaceutical buyer's desire to extend and expand its drug pipeline in a logical way and to pay a large premium to make sure it can. Gilead has been diversifying beyond HIV drugs and has been developing therapies for hepatitis C, making Pharmasset - which appears to have attractive hepatitis C data - a logical choice."