



Private Equity



Forward Risk's value-driven approach to supporting private equity investors prioritizes providing meaningful insight into both risk and opportunity in equal measure.

Private equity investors need more than just surface-level information. They need to know the real story before they decide to invest or make a key executive hire. We understand that private equity investors have different concerns regarding target companies, including whether the management team has the proper experience, track record, personality, and adaptability to take a company into its next phase of growth.

Forward Risk's human intelligence gathering capabilities have proven to be a crucial value-add for many private equity investors, especially when researching a management team with a limited public profile. Our approach, blending open-source research with human intelligence, has paid dividends in the form of actionable findings that would have been otherwise impossible to uncover.

How We Help

▶ **Investigative due diligence into target companies and leadership**

Forward Risk provides research that leverages our extensive, in-house open source, public record, and human intelligence capabilities. Our creative and rigorous approach to investigations provides private equity firms with the intelligence they need to make informed decisions regarding investment opportunities and key personnel.

▶ **Unlocking value and mitigating risk**

We conduct an examination of a prospective investment's human capital, operations, internal controls, culture, and overarching business strategy. Through meticulous research and interviews with former employees and other relevant individuals, we obtain valuable insight into the target company, helping private equity investors maximize reward while minimizing risk. We also provide regulatory intelligence and industry analysis to better inform investment decisions.

▶ **Vetting executive hires**

We build a nuanced portrait of the prospective hires of a portfolio company or target company, assessing the individuals' character, performance record, and management style. We scrutinize the individual's suitability for all aspects of the position, including their readiness to accept investor guidance and partnership.

▶ **Improving deal terms**

Our research uncovers potential conflicts of interest, undisclosed relationships, and other potential red flags or adverse matters. Forward Risk goes beyond the typical "checklist" approach of other investigative firms, leveraging our extensive experience with private equity clients to analyze findings from their perspective, and highlight data points relevant to their transactions. With advance knowledge of such issues, our clients can act strategically in structuring deals.



Our Experience

Investigation Reveals Company's Mishandling of Harassment Claims

A private equity investor engaged Forward Risk to examine how a company's leadership team had responded to a media report about harassment by a former manager. Contrary to the firm's claims,

the company's leadership was credibly accused of enabling the manager's harassment and handling the aftermath poorly. The PE firm decided to stop moving forward with a potential investment.

The Forward Risk Difference

The Forward Risk team is a close-knit group of star performers dedicated to excelling in the investigative profession. We have diverse backgrounds but a shared commitment to providing industry-leading services, reinforced through the firm's extensive investments in knowledge sharing, training, and professional development. Our success comes from the intelligence, creativity, experience, sophistication, and tenacity of our investigators.

We listen to our clients. We don't try to shoehorn a complex investigation into a pre-defined package that can be mass-produced. Through understanding each client's concerns and goals, we tailor our research and our reporting to what is most actionable.

We devote time, resources, and care to our work. Where other firms may pressure investigators to prioritize speed over quality, we are absolutely committed to thoroughness, depth, accuracy, and proper analysis. This is how we build strong and long-lasting relationships with our clients.

Who We Are

Forward Risk is a corporate investigations, intelligence, and risk advisory firm that provides tailored investigation and litigation support, investor due diligence, and strategic intelligence services. Our unique approach combines well-honed industry savvy with bespoke reporting to deliver value-driven information tailored to meet complex client needs. Staffed by a diverse team of professionals including former attorneys, investigative journalists, intelligence community alumni, and other government affairs experts, we help clients navigate transaction and dispute lifecycles by providing investigation and litigation support, investor due diligence, and strategic intelligence services.

We marry comprehensive rigor to the curation of narrative context, which ensures that our clients receive actionable intelligence in the unique context of their specific engagement and objectives. Learn more about the unique strides Forward Risk takes in the investigative space at www.forwardrisk.com.

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