

Official Statement from Steve Pagliuca on the Closing of the Celtics Transaction

Congratulations to Bill Chisholm and the many new and current investors on the closing of the Celtics transaction today. It is a fantastic group of leaders and they will be excellent stewards of the franchise going forward.

As a lifelong Celtics fan and a co-owner and managing partner for the past 23 years, the Celtics' success has always been, and will continue to be, what's most important to me. My wife Judy and four children who grew up as Celtics fans were all in, supporting me, the team, and our community through Shamrock Foundation. Their support was extraordinary and made the journey even more special. I will also be forever grateful to all the fans in New England for their passion for the team and kindness to me and our family.

As this chapter closes, I'll now take on a different role – as a superfan who will spend more time with my family, and in the sun at my home in Florida, while cheering for the team from afar. As part of the transition period, my family will retain an investment interest in the team for the next three years.

Being a part of this organization that brought the team's most recent two championships back to Boston has been an honor of a lifetime. As president and cofounder of the Shamrock Foundation, I have had a courtside seat for the great impact the foundation has had on our community. I am so proud of the Boston Celtics United for Social Justice initiative, as well as the Bill Russell civil rights monument – both testaments to the team's ongoing commitment to social justice. Dave Hoffman, Allison Feaster, and our community relations group, along with our players' dedication to service, also set the standard every year for an NBA team helping those in need.

I am thankful for the amazing support we have received from Adam Silver, Mark Tatum, and the incredible executives and staff at the NBA. They have been a critical part of our success and they will always have my deepest gratitude and respect.

I was blessed to work alongside amazing basketball minds, including Red Auerbach, Chris Wallace, Danny Ainge, Brad Stevens, Doc Rivers, Joe Mazzulla, Austin Ainge, and Mike Zarren, who shared a passion for building a winning culture defined by hard work, decency, and mutual respect. We were also able to count on legends like Bob Cousy, Bill Russell, K.C. Jones, Satch Sanders, John Havlicek, Jo Jo White, Bill Walton, Paul Pierce, Kevin Garnett, and many others to be the best we could be. And I always felt lucky to see first hand the legendary team of Tommy Heinsohn and Mike Gorman night after night. Rarefied air for sure – and only possible in Boston.

The business side of the Celtics organization was also defined by excellence. It was a pleasure to work with Wyc Grousbeck, Bob Epstein, and the entire investment group, as well as the Celtics' world-class management team, including Rich Gotham, Bill Reissfelder, Shawn Sullivan, and Ted Dalton. Working together as a seamless team through all the ups and downs was truly uplifting for me personally.

I will always remember the lesson of ubuntu Doc Rivers taught us in 2008, which led us to our first championship as the new ownership group and set the tone for the years to come. I learned so much about the power of teamwork, caring, and having a shared sense of purpose from this organization that, as the grandson of an Italian shoemaker and immigrant, it sometimes felt like I was living in a fairy tale.

Indeed, the success we've had was due teamwork and to the dedication of the players, staff, and the wonderful employees at the Boston Garden — and the incredible and passionate fans who pack the Garden night after night. Jayson, Jaylen, and the entire 2024 championship team embodied this passion and led us to win the Finals, cementing the Boston Celtics as the leader with 18 World Championship titles, and no, it doesn't get any better than that!

I am already excited about the 2025/26 Boston Celtics season, the Shamrock Foundation Tip Off gala, and the quest for banner #19. In the words of our champion Kevin Garnett, "anything is possible!"

Let's go Celtics!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Pagliuca". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.