

Wallace Mathai-Davis

Wallace Mathai-Davis has over thirty years of experience as a global asset management and banking executive, operating in the markets of North America, Asia, Europe, Eastern Europe and Latin America.

He is a principal owner and Managing Partner of the GIA Group, a New York based private holding company which invests in and advises banking and asset management firms; among its clients are firms in New York, London, Europe and Shanghai.

Through the GIA Group, Mr. Mathai-Davis was co-founder, co-CEO and Board member of ChinaVest, Ltd., a merchant bank headquartered in Shanghai with additional offices in Beijing and Hong Kong. He remains a significant shareholder and member of the Board of Directors. ChinaVest, Ltd. provides cross-border merger and acquisition services to non-Chinese companies seeking to acquire or invest in Chinese companies. Among ChinaVest clients are/have been market leading public companies in North America and Europe: including, IBM, John Deere & Co., AIG, Cuna Mutual, Scottish and Newcastle, Mueller and Co., TPG, to mention a few. As Co-founder and Co-CEO, Mr. Mathai-Davis was directly involved in all the major engagements of the firm. In addition, Mr. Mathai-Davis has been involved in Greater China banking and asset management investments since the early 1990s, including creating the first publicly traded fund investing exclusively in small and mid-cap equities in Greater China.

Mr. Mathai-Davis was the Chief Operating Officer, shareholder and a partner for 16 years of Offitbank, headquartered in New York. Offitbank was the fifth largest independent trust bank in the United States and was recognized as a leading independent asset manager and private bank, with 7 regional offices, including one in Hong Kong. Mr. Mathai-Davis was also the Chairman and CEO of the Offit Investment Fund, Inc., a mutual fund complex with significant domestic and international investments. In addition to his broader executive responsibilities as COO, the Emerging Markets investment division reported to him. This division held substantial investments in China. Mr. Mathai-Davis negotiated the sale of OffitBank to Wachovia Corporation in 1999, where he became a member of the Wachovia Executive Committee responsible for all asset and investment management, private banking, insurance services, trust services and brokerage services for Wachovia Corporation.

Prior to co-founding the merchant bank in Shanghai in 2004, at the request of the Chairman of Mercantile Bancshares, Mr. Mathai-Davis joined the Board of Directors of Mercantile Bancshares and assumed the responsibilities of Chairman of Investment and Wealth Management for the purpose of restructuring the entire investment, private banking, mutual fund and wealth management businesses of the holding company and its subsidiaries. While completing the restructuring, Mr. Mathai-Davis successfully completed two acquisitions, one strategic investment and increased discretionary assets by twenty-five percent. In addition to being a member of the Board of Directors, Mr.

Mathai-Davis was also a member of the Executive Committee, the Asset/Liability Committee and the Credit Committee of the holding company and its principal banking subsidiary.

Earlier in his career, Mr. Mathai-Davis was the Chief Operating Officer of the Urban Academy for Management, and a member of the Graduate Research Faculty of Stony Brook University where he won multiple awards as a faculty member. He is published in academic journals and regularly speaks on investment markets.

In the course of his professional career, Mr. Mathai-Davis has served on various corporate Boards of Directors related to his investment and banking activities, among them: The Broadstone Group, a diversified national real estate company on which he was a member of the operating and audit committees; Econolodges of America, of which he was the Chairman; MCM Bond and Currency Market Services, the leading global provider of real-time currency data to the sell side, where he was a principal director.

Mr. Mathai-Davis holds a Ph.D. and M.A. from Princeton University. He graduated as a university scholar “maxima cum laude” from the University of Notre Dame. Mr. Mathai-Davis is active in the civic charitable sector. He was for thirteen years the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, the largest Protestant church in the world; he currently is a trustee of the Johns Hopkins University Institute of Contemporary German Studies, a member of the Advisory Board of the Princeton University Department of Sociology, a member of the New York Academy of Sciences, and a long-standing member of the *ifo* economic research institute in Munich.

Mr. Mathai-Davis is married to Dr. Prema Mathai-Davis. They have three grown children.