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I got married yesterday! Please allow me to keep this one brief. Life is beautiful, love is all you need.

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Austin Financing Activity

- [S3 Ventures](#), a venture capital firm founded in 2005, announced a new [\\$250M fund](#), their largest ever and seventh overall. S3 has exits including food delivery app **Favor**, acquired by **H-E-B**, and cloud-based videoconferencing platform software **Liveoak Technologies**, which was acquired by **DocuSign**.
- [Tacora Capital](#), an investment management firm, announced their inaugural fund with a [\\$250M close](#) backed by **Peter Theil**. Tacora, led by Keri Findley, has a target fund size of \$300M and aims to finance early and mid-stage companies.
- [Colossal Biosciences](#), a genetic engineering company, announced a [\\$60M Series A](#) round led by **At One Ventures** and **Thomas Tull**. Colossal, which plans to bring the woolly mammoth back from extinction within four to six years, has raised \$75M to date.
- [Slingshot Aerospace](#), a satellite and drone signal processing company, announced a [\\$25M Series A](#) round, led by **ATX Venture Partners** and **Draper Associates**. Slingshot has raised \$44.5M to date with other investors including **Edison Partners**, **Embedded Ventures**, **Valor Equity Partners** and **Lockheed Martin Ventures**.
- [Smarter Sorting](#), a consumer products marketer, reported [\\$14M in equity funding and securities](#). Smarter Sorting has raised \$31.6M to date from investors including **US Ecology** and **RTP Ventures**.

- [Maxwell Biosciences](#), a cognitive performance biotech company, announced a [\\$10.8M seed round](#), led by **DecentraNet**. Other investors in the round include **Harvard Business School Angels**, **Joseph Ventures**, **Keiretsu Forum**, and **Star Lake Bioventures**.
- [MDisrupt](#), a digital health platform for healthcare expert connections, announced a [\\$6M seed round](#). Investors included **Bren Investments** and Grail co-founder **Jessica Owens**.
- [Marqii](#), a ghost kitchen support company, announced a [\\$4.1M seed round](#) led by **Acronym Venture Capital**. Other investors in the round include **CEAS Investments**, **Green Egg Ventures**, and **Highgate Technology Ventures**.
- [Legion Health](#), a mental health marketplace for businesses, announced a [\\$2M seed round](#) from investors including **Y Combinator**, **UpHonest Capital**, and **Soma Capital**.

Austin M&A Activity

- [National Instruments](#) (NASDAQ: NATI), an automated test manufacturer, [announced](#) the acquisition of [NH Research](#), with terms undisclosed. NI plans to use the purchase of the EV branch of **Heinzinger Automotive GmbH** to expand further into the electrical vehicle market.
- [Praecipio Consulting](#), an IT consulting firm, [announced](#) the purchase of [6kites, Inc](#), a Boulder-based tech consulting business, with terms undisclosed. 6kites is partnered with Atlassian and specializes in aerospace and EV industries.

Austin People

- [AlertMedia](#), an emergency communications company, [announced](#) the hiring of **Christopher Kenessey** as CEO. AlertMedia raised \$57M prior to 2021, when they received a private equity investment from Vista Equity Partners, while Kenessey was previously CEO of NetMotion.
- [NextCoast Ventures](#), a fund focused on investments outside of the US coasts, [announced](#) the hiring of **Kaitlyn DeBernardo** as a partner and head of platform. NextCoast has exits including Cardlytics, Navegate, and Tenfold, while DeBernardo was previously interim director of financial operations at Workrise.
- [Texas Blockchain Council](#), launched in 2020 to push real estate and tokenization legislation, [announced](#) **Peter Rex** as the newest member of their board. Rex is currently CEO of real estate company CEO of real estate tech company Rex.

Other Texas Deal Activity

- [Texas Medical Center Venture Fund](#), a Houston-based life sciences fund, [announced an additional \\$50M](#) added to the fund. The fund has made 12 investments since their inaugural \$25M fund in 2017, leading 2 of the investments.
- [nVenue](#), a Dallas-based data analytics firm, announced a [\\$3.5M seed round](#) led by **Corazon Capital** and **KB Partners**. nVenue has raised \$3.6M to date with other investors including **Comcast NBCUniversal SportsTech**.
- [Quidnet Energy](#), a Houston-based energy company for carbon-free electrical grids, announced a 15-year commercial agreement with San Antonio-based utility provider [CPS Energy](#). Quidnet has raised \$18M to date from investors including **PRIME Coalition**.
- [Patterson-UTI Energy](#) (Nasdaq: PTEN), a Houston-based oil field services company, [announced](#) a strategic investment in Houston-based geothermal energy firm [Criterion Energy Partners Inc](#), with terms undisclosed.

Thank you!

[Mason Rathe](#)

Additional research and newsletter support provided by [Nirjhar Mundkur](#)

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