

Akerman Adds Team of IP and Commercial Litigation Partners

[Akerman LLP](#) has added intellectual property partner Caroline Mankey and commercial litigation partner Kanika Corley in the firm's Los Angeles office.

They join from Sedgwick LLP, where Mankey chaired the Intellectual Property, Media and Entertainment Group.

In a release, the firm said the lawyers join Akerman's Los Angeles team at a time when it has more than doubled in size since 2015 to 32 lawyers. In recent months, the office relocated to the CalEdison DTLA to accommodate continuing growth.

"Caroline and Kanika are highly skilled lawyers who bring important depth to our intellectual property and commercial litigation team in Los Angeles and nationwide," said Lawrence Rochefort, chair of the Litigation Practice Group. "We look forward to making even greater contributions to our clients through their comprehensive knowledge of the entertainment, arts, fashion, retail, sports and technology sectors."

"Caroline and Kanika add great value to Akerman's national IP and litigation platforms, as we expand our Los Angeles presence to meet the growing needs of our clients," said Sue Zabloudil, Los Angeles office managing partner. "In Los Angeles and nationwide, we remain focused on making Akerman a place where clients benefit from a diversity of ideas and experiences essential to advance their goals as well as our culture of collaborative innovation."

Caroline Mankey

Mankey is a trial lawyer representing clients in intellectual

property matters in the entertainment, arts, fashion, retail and technology sectors. She focuses her practice on copyright, trademark, trade secret, design patent, licensing and other contract rights, and rights of publicity disputes. Her entertainment clients include motion picture studios and production companies, actors, comedians, television personalities, and artists.

Mankey is recognized among the National Law Journal's 2017 list of Intellectual Property Trailblazers and among the Daily Journal's 2017 Top Intellectual Property Lawyers in California. She serves as chair of the Women Who Lead Board for the Association of Media and Entertainment Counsel and as a board member of Female Executives in Media and Entertainment.

Kanika Corley

Corley has a business and entertainment litigation practice. Her clients include multimedia companies, musicians and other creatives, professional athletes, fashion brands, wine manufacturers, and hotels. She focuses her practice on commercial disputes as well as soft intellectual property litigation and prosecution for clients in the media, entertainment and sports sectors.

Corley was named to the National Bar Association's Top 40 Under 40 Nation's Best Advocates list. In addition to her practice, she serves as an adjunct professor for the University of Southern California's Gould School of Law.

Mankey and Corley are the latest lateral partners to join the Los Angeles team. Other recent additions include consumer financial partner Kathleen "Kitty" Ryan, a former Deputy Assistant Director for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Office of Regulations, and real estate transactional associate Christopher Munro, who represents operators, developers and investors in connection with the formation and structuring of real estate joint ventures and other investment

vehicles.

Litigation Shareholder Steven D. Di Saia Joins Buchalter in Los Angeles

Shareholder Steven D. Di Saia has joined [Buchalter](#) as a member of the Litigation and Products Liability Practice Groups in the Los Angeles office. Di Saia focuses his practice on the defense of mass and catastrophic injury claims, mass and complex tort litigation, and products liability litigation.

“As we kick off the New Year, Buchalter’s growth will continue to be at the forefront of our initiatives in 2018. Steven adds a wealth of experience to our growing Litigation and Products Liability Practices. We are delighted to welcome him to the Firm,” said Adam J. Bass, President and Chief Executive Officer of Buchalter.

In a release, the firm said his experience includes advising clients on matters relating to complex tort litigation concerning environmental liability, toxic exposure, injury, fraud, and unfair business practices. Di Saia represents clients in industries including pharmaceutical, construction, environmental, food and beverage, healthcare, electrical and electronics.

Di Saia earned his J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, and his B.A. from the University of California, Berkeley.

“I am very excited to be joining Buchalter’s robust Litigation and Products Liability Practices. Buchalter possesses a multitude of Practices and valuable resources that will allow me to best serve my clients,” said Di Saia.

Global Finance Partner Andrew Cardonick Joins Sidley in Chicago

Andrew Cardonick has joined Sidley Austin LLP in Chicago as a partner in its Global Finance practice.

Cardonick formerly co-chaired the finance practice at Greenberg Traurig, LLP. He focuses his practice primarily on the representation of commercial banks, business development companies and other nonbank financial institutions, as well as select private equity funds.

In a release, the firm said Cardonick advises clients in connection with sponsored and non-sponsored asset-based, cash flow, split lien, unitranche, second lien, and unsecured syndicated, club and single bank credit facilities throughout the U.S. and internationally. He represents lending clients in restructurings and workouts throughout the country. Cardonick also is involved in various finance and restructuring topics,

including debtor-in-possession financings, cash collateral, substantive consolidation, fraudulent conveyance and other structuring issues.

“Due to significant competitive and regulatory developments within the global finance industry, both traditional and non-traditional lenders are looking for guidance in navigating complex transactions,” said Craig Griffith, member of Sidley’s Executive Committee and its Global Finance practice. “We are pleased to welcome Drew to the firm as his considerable experience, particularly in lending and restructuring, will expand Sidley’s finance capabilities to support our clients engaging in deals within this changing environment.”

Littler Adds Shareholder Anne LaWer to San Jose Office

Anne S. LaWer has joined Employment and labor law firm Littler as a shareholder in the San Jose office. LaWer joins from GCA Law Partners in the Bay Area.

“Anne’s deep knowledge of employee benefits compliance matters and experience advising clients on a wide range of benefits and compensation issues makes her a natural fit for Littler,” said Eric C. Bellafronto, office managing shareholder in San Jose. “Given the rapidly evolving regulatory framework both nationally and in California, Anne is a strong addition to our San Jose office – one of many in our firm that was recently recognized with a ‘Tier 1’ ranking in the 2018 U.S. News –

Best Lawyers® 'Best Law Firms' list."

In a release, the firm said LaWer has experience advising on employee health and welfare, retirement and stock compensation plans, administrative and statutory compliance, and designing and drafting plans. She counsels employers on matters related to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. Her practice also includes advising on Internal Revenue Service and Department of Labor compliance programs, healthcare privacy and security, executive compensation matters, and employee benefits issues in mergers and acquisitions.

"I'm excited to join Littler, which has an impressive global reputation for advising employers on some of the most complex and significant labor and employment compliance issues, and I am thrilled to help expand Littler's already outstanding employee benefits practice," LaWer said. "I was also drawn to Littler's commitment to innovation and efficiency, which is especially important to clients in Silicon Valley."

LaWer is a member of the San Francisco Chapter of the Western Pension & Benefits Council's program committee and has served as co-chair of the Barron Park Elementary School Site Council and as president of the Barron Park Elementary School Parent Teacher Association.

LaWer received her J.D. from the University of San Francisco School of Law and her B.A. from Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles.

Dykema Appoints Reed R. Heimbecher as Minneapolis Office Managing Member

Dykema announced that Reed R Heimbecher has been appointed as office managing member of its Minneapolis office. Heimbecher also serves as leader of the firm's Intellectual Property Transactional Group.

Heimbecher has more than 25 years of experience in all aspects of worldwide intellectual property law—including a seven-year stint in-house as vice president of intellectual property for a medical device business with a billion dollars of annual sales. His practice focuses on patent and trademark prosecution, patent portfolio management, intellectual property due diligence, and client counseling.

Prior to joining Dykema, Heimbecher managed his own firm, which received recognition as a “Go-To Law Firm for Patent Prosecution” from a Fortune 500 company.

Heimbecher earned a J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of Law, and a B.S., with honors, from the University of Colorado. He clerked for Judge Rich of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Before attending law school, Heimbecher, whose undergraduate degree is in aerospace engineering, was an engineer for a large military contractor where he carried out performance and aerodynamic analysis and trajectory simulations of Tomahawk cruise missiles. In that role, he also worked on launch vehicles for putting large payloads into outer space.

Hogan Lovells Adds Partner Kevin Keenan to Houston Office

Hogan Lovells announced that Kevin Keenan has joined the firm's Houston office as a partner in the Infrastructure, Energy, Resources, and Projects practice.

"We are delighted that Kevin has joined us" said Philip Robb, Global head of the firm's Infrastructure, Energy, Resources, and Projects practice. "He has a strong background and global experience, and already works with many of our existing energy clients. Kevin gives our practice the additional strength to expand our client services in the energy space in general, and in LNG in particular. "

Prior to joining Hogan Lovells, Keenan was a partner at Baker Botts, where he served as Deputy Department Head of Global Projects in Houston. He has built a global practice in the energy infrastructure and transportation sectors, with a focus on LNG project development and shipping.

"I look forward to leveraging Hogan Lovells' robust global platform to better serve my clients and, in so doing, not only expand my practice but help further grow the practices of my new partners and help augment what is already a tremendous energy and infrastructure group at Hogan Lovells," said Keenan. "I assist clients around the world with cross-border

transactions and the value of this platform, driven not only by its breadth but also by the talent that Hogan Lovells deploys within it, cannot be overstated. I'm delighted to be a part of it."

In a release, the firm said Keenan's clients range from large integrated oil and gas companies to joint ventures, state-owned companies, private equity funds and project start-ups. He has experience in the LNG project development space, having negotiated dozens of LNG sale and purchase agreements, terminal use agreements, master sales agreements, capacity swaps, port liability agreements and various other instruments needed to get an LNG project off the ground.

The release said he also has experience in commercial shipping, primarily as it relates to transporting LNG but also involving crude oil, coal and other commodities. Over the past 15 years he has negotiated more than 75 charters (time, voyage and bareboat) for LNG tankers, oil tankers, coal barges, FPSOs and FSRUs and more than 60 shipbuilding contracts and vessel modification contracts for the same types of vessels, primarily with shipyards in South Korea, Japan, China, the Middle East and Europe.

Keenan has also assisted clients with a number of refinery projects, including expansions at several refineries along the US Gulf Coast, an expansion in Aruba, and a new build modular refinery in Asia.

"Kevin will be a great addition to the Houston office as we continue to add depth and breadth to our transactional, intellectual property, and litigation practices focused on serving energy industry clients here and around the world," said Bruce Oakley, Managing Partner of the Houston Office.

Keenan earned his J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and his B.A. from Idaho State University. He is admitted to practice in Texas.

Milwaukee Employee Benefits Attorney Joins Quarles & Brady's Labor & Employment Group

The law firm of [Quarles & Brady LLP](#) announced that Michael Wieber has joined the firm's Labor & Employment Practice Group, Employee Benefits team, as of counsel in its Milwaukee office.

Wieber focuses his practice on tax and fiduciary aspects of 401(k) plans, pension plans, employee stock ownership plans (ESOPs), executive deferred compensation arrangements, and flexible spending plans. He has significant experience in ERISA fiduciary law, including investment advisory and management services, and in mergers and acquisition.

"We are pleased to bring Mike onto the Quarles & Brady team, as his significant corporate and financial expertise will make an immediate, valuable contribution," said Sean Scullen, national chair of the Labor & Employment Group.

Prior to joining the firm, Wieber spent 19 years at BMO Financial Group. Before BMO, he worked as an associate at Foley & Lardner, LLP focusing on ERISA and Employee Benefits Law.

"I am excited to return to private practice, especially at

Quarles & Brady as a member of its Employee Benefits team. I feel as though I have a unique practical perspective that I'm looking forward to sharing with clients and the firm," said Wieber.

Wieber earned his law degree, with honors, from the Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law and his bachelor's degree, with highest honors, from the University of Notre Dame.

Dykema Appoints Jeff Huron as Managing Member of Its Los Angeles Office

[Dykema](#) announced that Jeffrey G. Huron has been appointed as the office managing member of the firm's Los Angeles Office. He succeeds Mike Wippler, who now serves on the firm's Executive Board.

In a release, the firm said Huron, who is a member of the firm's Business Litigation Practice Group, has more than 25 years of experience litigating and arbitrating business, real estate and entertainment disputes. His clients have included individuals, financial institutions, lenders, real estate investors and developers, and receivers. Huron has experience in appellate matters and has authored numerous articles relating to his litigation and appellate practice.

"We've been thrilled with the growth of our Los Angeles office

since its establishment 15 years ago,” said Peter Kellett, Dykema Chairman and CEO. “We’re excited Jeff is bringing his leadership capabilities into this role to build upon the momentum Mike Wippler established over the past five years.”

Outside of his practice, Huron also serves as Vice Chair of the California State Bar Financial Institutions Committee. Prior to joining Dykema, he founded and managed his own firm, the Huron Law Group.

Huron earned a J.D. from University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law, and a B.A. from Marquette University. He has been recognized in Southern California SuperLawyers for Business Litigation every year since 2010.

Benjamin C. Hughes Joins Freeborn’s Corporate Practice Group as Partner

[Freeborn & Peters LLP](#) announces that Benjamin C. Hughes has joined the firm as a partner in the Corporate Practice Group.

“We are thrilled to welcome Ben to Freeborn and our Corporate Practice Group,” said Cynthia A. Bergmann, a partner and co-leader of the firm’s Corporate Practice Group. “Ben plays an important role in delivering key counsel on tax-related and other business transaction issues that are important to the success of our corporate clients.”

Based in Freeborn's Chicago office, Hughes focuses his practice primarily in the areas of business structuring, strategic business planning, income tax evaluation, tax efficiency evaluation, state and federal tax law, and IRS controversies, the firm said in a release. He also serves as general counsel or tax counsel for commercial and financial transactions across a broad spectrum of professions and industries. In addition, Hughes has been involved in various personal advanced planning and advanced business planning engagements that have included international trusts, family holding companies, family offices, and strategic business development for the working wealthy.

Prior to joining Freeborn, Hughes was a partner in the Advanced Planning and Family Office Practice Group at Handler Thayer, LLP. He also previously handled transactions involving tax planning and business and corporate law for his nationwide private practice client base. In addition, he formerly served as outside counsel to a tax consulting firm.

Hughes received his J.D. from Florida Coastal School of Law with Moot Court Honors, his Master of Laws in taxation, with honors, from The John Marshall Law School and his Bachelor of Arts from the University of Montana.

Aaron Crews Rejoins Littler as Chief Data Analytics Officer

Employment and labor law firm [Littler](#) announced the return of Aaron D. Crews to the firm as its first Chief Data Analytics Officer, based in the Sacramento office.

In this new role, Crews will manage the operations of Littler's data analytics practice and lead the development and implementation of technology-based solutions that provide value to the firm and its clients, the firm said in a release. He will work closely with Dr. Zev J. Eigen, Littler's Global Director of Data Analytics, a team of data analysts, and others within the firm who are guiding Littler's efforts in data analytics, AI and other technology-based tools and methodologies. Crews will also use data analytics tools to facilitate process improvements and efficiencies, and assist in protocols for the secure handling of data.

"Aaron's addition comes at an important time for Littler and the legal industry as a whole, as the use of data analytics to guide business and legal decisions only continues to grow," said Tom Bender and Jeremy Roth, co-managing directors of Littler, in a joint statement. "Aaron will play a key role in formalizing our business strategy and enhancing our capabilities as we continue to expand our data analytics capabilities."

Crews joins Littler from Text IQ, a provider of AI technologies to address legal and compliance issues, where he served as general counsel and vice president of strategy. Prior to that, he was global head of eDiscovery at Walmart and oversaw the company's eDiscovery process and litigation strategy and managed data analytics initiatives. Prior to

joining Walmart, Crews was a shareholder with Littler and counseled clients on eDiscovery, the use of computer forensics in investigations and litigation, and protocols related to the collection and analysis of data.

“Littler is one of the few firms that has a genuine appetite and history of embracing innovation and leveraging technology to improve the delivery of legal services,” said Crews. “One of the most significant trends affecting our industry is the rise of legal operations teams within corporate law departments. The opportunity to create a legal operations role within a law firm was too good to pass up and helps further Littler’s unique ability to provide solutions that focus on clients’ needs and pain points.”

“We’ve developed several initiatives over the years that use data analytics to better serve clients and the time had come to create a position focused on managing our operations in this area,” said Paul Weiner, Littler’s National eDiscovery Counsel. “We are fortunate to bring on Aaron who has the right experience, skills and vision to collaborate with clients, corporate departments and our own attorneys to develop new data analytics applications and improve legal processes that will advance our position as a market leader in law firm innovation.”

Crews has served on the advisory boards of several technology companies and startup organizations, and is a prolific writer and accomplished speaker. He received his J.D., cum laude, from the University of San Francisco School of Law and his B.A. from the University of California at Davis.

DLA Piper Names New Global and U.S. Co-Chairs for IP and Tech

[DLA Piper](#) has named Frank Ryan co-chair of the firm's global Intellectual Property and Technology practice and Ann Ford co-chair of its US IPT practice, both effective January 1.

Ryan joins Stéphane Lemarchand as global co-chair of IPT and will continue to serve as chair of the US IPT practice alongside Ford. Ryan also serves as deputy chair of the firm's global Media, Sport and Entertainment sector and is a member of the firm's Executive Committee and Global Board. In his practice, he provides legal and strategic advice to domestic and multinational clients in litigation, intellectual property, media and sports, and complex commercial matters.

Ford, who previously served as vice chair of the US IPT practice, is also the US chair of the Trademark, Copyright and Media practice, the global co-head and US head of Sectors, and a member of the firm's Executive and Policy committees. In her practice, Ford works with clients on business, litigation, strategy, and transactional aspects of intellectual property. She has extensive experience working with both mature and emerging companies on developing, strengthening and enforcing brands in a wide variety of industries.

Dommond Lonnie Appointed Director of Dykema's Automotive Industry Group

Dykema announced that Dommond Lonnie, member of Dykema's Litigation practice, was recently appointed to serve the firm as director of its Automotive Industry Group, a multidisciplinary group focused on providing high-quality legal service to automotive and mobility clients.

Based in the firm's Los Angeles office, Lonnie is experienced in representing numerous domestic and foreign automobile/mobility manufacturers in product liability, class action, toxic tort, and commercial litigation matters, the firm said in a release. Throughout his career, he has prepared and tried multi-million dollar exposure lawsuits involving product liability, breach of warranty and breach of contract claims on behalf of Fortune 500 clients.

"I am honored to have been asked to take on this significantly important leadership position in one of Dykema's core industry groups, and in doing so, supporting and upholding the successful work we've done on behalf of our automotive clients worldwide," said Lonnie. "We have established ourselves as the premiere legal counsel to OEMs, global automotive suppliers and other mobility companies, and I plan to lead the charge in continuing our excellent track record of client service."

Lonnie, who received a J.D. and a B.A. from the University of California, Los Angeles, succeeds Brendan Cahill, who was recently appointed to Dykema's Executive Board.

Financial Restructuring and Banking Partners Join Barnes & Thornburg

[Barnes & Thornburg LLP](#) has added financial restructuring and banking attorneys Thomas Hoffman and Michael Cavallaro as partners in the firm's Minneapolis office.

Hoffman and Cavallaro have almost 30 years of in-house bank counsel experience, including indenture trustee representation, restructuring work and bank advisory and regulation advice, the firm said in a news release.

"As we approach our tenth year in Minneapolis, we're continuing to attract the best legal talent in the region, while also putting our people in positions to provide valuable counsel and services to clients, both in the Twin Cities and other markets, and take advantage of our national platform," said Connie Lahn, managing partner of Barnes & Thornburg's Minneapolis office. "In Mike and Tom, we've added two highly respected, dynamic attorneys with decades of banking and financial services experience."

"Mike and Tom bring invaluable in-house experience and are well-regarded by their peers and the broader business and legal communities in Minneapolis," said David Gotlieb, chair of Barnes & Thornburg's Corporate Department. "Their arrival underscores the concerted effort we're making to grow this

office and our larger corporate group with practitioners who can best address the increasing regulatory and compliance challenges facing large financial institutions.”

The pair, who was previously at Fox Rothschild, will be members of the Corporate Department.

Barnes & Thornburg has seen an influx of lateral growth with a group of four partners who launched the firm’s Family Law group in the Minneapolis office: Karen Schreiber, Sonja Trom Eayrs, Brittany Stephens Pearson, and Gloria Myre. Bruce Little, an intellectual property partner, also joined in Minneapolis in the first four days of the year. Barnes & Thornburg’s Minneapolis office, which opened in 2009, now has increased its attorney ranks to 32.

About the Attorneys

Thomas Hoffman has more than 34 years of experience in the financial services industry as a consumer regulatory and compliance attorney and as a commercial financial restructuring and bankruptcy attorney. In the consumer space, he concentrates on default servicing, consumer regulatory and compliance issues, foreclosure, and secured and unsecured claims. In his commercial practice, he represents national banks, trustees, and other creditors in financial restructuring and bankruptcy cases. Earlier in his career, Hoffman worked for more than 25 years as an in-house attorney at Wells Fargo & Company and became a managing counsel.

Hoffman received his J.D. from the Mitchell Hamline School of Law, cum laude, and his B.A. from the University of Minnesota.

Michael Cavallaro focuses his practice on advising banks and financial services companies on national and regional consumer regulatory and legal compliance issues related to consumer and commercial bankruptcy and restructuring, collections, vendor management, foreclosure, loss mitigation and default servicing. His representation of financial institutions

includes credit unions, community and national banks, and mortgage servicing companies. Cavallaro also served as the U.S. Trustee Single Point of Contact for one of the top five largest financial institutions in the country, in addition to having worked as senior corporate counsel at U.S. Bank.

Cavallaro received his J.D. from the Mitchell Hamline School of Law, and his B.A., cum laude, from Gustavus Adolphus College.

Nicholas G. Moneta Joins Farrell Fritz as a First-Year Associate

Nicholas G. Moneta, a Franklin Square, NY resident, has joined Farrell Fritz as a first-year associate.

Moneta was a law clerk (2017) and summer associate (2016) at Farrell Fritz. Additionally, he interned for the Hofstra Community & Economic Development Clinic; was a judicial intern for Magistrate Judge A. Kathleen Tomlinson, United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York; and was a legal intern and paralegal at the law firm of Moulinos & Associates LLC in New York, NY.

Moneta earned his Juris Doctor degree, cum laude, from the Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University, where he

was the Managing Editor of Articles for the Hofstra Labor & Employment Law Journal. He received his Bachelor of Fine Arts, magna cum laude, from Adelphi University.

Former U.S. Attorney and Assistant U.S. Attorney Join Bradley's Tampa Office

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP announced that former U.S. Attorney A. Lee Bentley III and former Assistant U.S. Attorney Jason Mehta have joined the firm's Tampa office as partners in the Government Enforcement and Investigations Practice Group. Both served the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Florida, based in Tampa and Jacksonville, Fla., respectively.

Bradley Chairman of the Board and Managing Partner Beau Grenier said, "As former federal prosecutors with extensive experience handling diverse criminal and civil fraud cases at the highest levels, Lee and Jason offer invaluable insights and skills for securing successful outcomes for our clients and defending their interests in every stage of an investigation. They each add significant depth to several key industries of interest for our clients: healthcare, government-contract defense, financial services, higher education, and cybersecurity."

"The strengths of Lee and Jason, along with the recent

addition of former Assistant United States Attorney Scarlett Singleton Nokes in our Nashville office, expand our already robust capabilities. We have a truly premier group of government enforcement attorneys, which enables us to provide unparalleled service to clients dealing with compliance issues, corporate investigations, and regulatory, civil, and criminal enforcement matters,” said Ty Howard, chair of the firm’s Government Enforcement and Investigations Practice Group.

“We are thrilled to welcome Lee and Jason to Bradley’s Tampa office,” said Bradley’s Tampa Office Managing Partner Robert B. Glenn. “Both are great additions to our team of experienced attorneys that supports and defends our clients’ pro-business efforts in today’s challenging enforcement environment. Our clients, both in Florida and nationally, will receive an outstanding defense team with Lee and Jason in place.”

Bentley now focuses his practice on defending False Claims Act and qui tam matters, handling federal criminal and regulatory matters, and conducting internal investigations. He has more than 30 years of experience in complex civil litigation and criminal matters and has handled trials and appeals in numerous federal and state courts. Bentley has served as sole or lead counsel in nearly 40 civil and criminal jury trials, the firm said in a news release.

As U.S. Attorney, Bentley oversaw more than 120 civil and criminal prosecutors. During his tenure, his office led the country in the number of qui tam cases prosecuted and was routinely one of the highest performing offices throughout the country, the firm said. Bentley participated in and supervised high-profile matters in the healthcare, defense procurement, and white-collar criminal areas.

Previously, Bentley served as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney and as an attorney advisor for the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Legal Counsel, advising the White

House and executive branch agencies on constitution and statutory questions. He also spent time in private practice in Washington, D.C., and in Atlanta.

Bentley received his J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law, where he was Order of the Coif and an editor of the Virginia Law Review, and his Bachelor of Business Administration from the University of Georgia. Following law school, Bentley clerked for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit for Chief Judge Haynsworth and for the Supreme Court of the United States for Justice Powell.

The firm said Mehta helps businesses and individuals navigate government investigations, conduct internal investigations, and defend False Claims Act and business litigation matters. His litigation and regulatory experience includes matters related to healthcare, defense procurement, cybersecurity, and financial services.

During his time as Assistant U.S. Attorney, Mehta recovered nearly a quarter of one billion dollars for the U.S. government, working on matters throughout the Middle District of Florida, including in Tampa, Fort Myers, Orlando, and Ocala. He was recognized in 2017 with the DOJ's Director Award, one of the highest honors bestowed upon the department's employees.

Previously, Mehta worked as an attorney-adviser for the U.S. State Department in Washington, where he led the department's responses to various Congressional investigations and represented the department in lawsuits throughout the country. In 2012, Mehta was recognized with the department's Exemplary Service Award. His experience also includes private practice in Washington and clerking for Judge Gerald Tjoflat of the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals. Mehta earned his J.D. (magna cum laude) from Harvard Law School, where he was senior editor of the Harvard Journal of Law & Public Policy and editor of the Harvard Journal on Legislation, and received his

Bachelor of Arts with high honors from the University of California, Berkeley.

Current U.S. Attorney in California Brian Stretch Will Join Sidley in San Francisco

Sidley Austin LLP announces that Brian Stretch, current U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of California, will join the firm in San Francisco as a partner in its White Collar: Government Litigation & Investigations practice. Stretch will focus his practice on the full range of federal enforcement and internal investigation matters, with a particular emphasis on corporate investigations, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and criminal defense matters.

In a release, the firm said Stretch is a highly accomplished lawyer with a distinguished history of public service and prosecution of criminal matters. During his 18-year tenure in the U.S. Attorney's office, Stretch has held various high-level positions, including that of U.S. Attorney, First Assistant U.S. Attorney and Chief of its Criminal Division. Stretch was appointed to the U.S. Attorney post by the Chief Judge of the Northern District. As the U.S. Attorney, he leads an office of over 130 lawyers and other professionals in addition to personally handling an array of criminal prosecutions.

Prior to joining the U.S. Attorney's office, Stretch served as a Deputy District Attorney (DA) in the Marin County District Attorney's Office. As a Deputy DA, he participated in all aspects of civil and criminal litigation, including investigation, charging, discovery, negotiation and settlement.

Stretch has tried more than three dozen jury trials to verdict and argued three appeals before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, the firm said.

"Brian's substantial experience as a first chair trial lawyer in high-stakes cases will add value to the San Francisco office as well as to the robust national practice," said Sharon Flanagan, managing partner of Sidley's San Francisco office and member of its Executive Committee. "We look forward to drawing from his tremendous knowledge to advise our clients facing government investigations and other complex white collar matters."

Hogan Lovells Promotes 31 to Partner and 38 to Counsel

Hogan Lovells announced that 31 of its lawyers have been promoted to partner.

Speaking on the promotions, Hogan Lovells' CEO Steve Immelt commented:

“We are seeing real momentum with these promotions – in terms of diversity of our practices, our offices, by gender, and by ethnicity. They represent the globally diverse nature of our business. With that in mind, I am particularly pleased that more than a third of our new partners and new counsel are women. I congratulate all those who were promoted and wish them every success as they continue their career with us.”

Each of Hogan Lovells’ five practice groups is represented in the 2018 partner promotions:

- Seven in Corporate (including in Corporate, Financial Institutions Group, Real Estate, and Tax)
- Ten in Litigation & Arbitration (including in International Arbitration, Investigations, White Collar and Fraud, and Litigation)
- Five in Government Regulatory (including in Environment and Natural Resources, Government Contracts and Public Procurement, Government Relations and Policy Advocacy, Food & Beverage, and Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology)
- Five in Finance (including in Banking, business Restructuring and Insolvency, and Infrastructure, Energy, Resources and Projects)
- Four in Intellectual Property

New partners include:

- 15 in Europe, spread across our London, Munich, Amsterdam, Madrid, Dusseldorf, Frankfurt, and Hamburg offices
- 13 in the United States & Latin America, spread across our Mexico City, Denver, Miami, New York, Northern Virginia, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C. offices
- Three in Asia, spread across our Shanghai, Beijing, and Tokyo offices.
- Eleven women and twenty men.

In addition to the 31 new partners, 38 lawyers have been promoted to counsel.

New partners are:

- Michael J. Bell – Government Regulatory (Government Relations and Policy Advocacy) Washington D. C.
- Meryl Rosen Bernstein – IPMT, Northern Virginia
- Jaime Bofill – LAE (Litigation) Madrid
- Sean Conaty* – Finance (Infrastructure, Energy, Resources and Projects) Tokyo
- Matthew E. Eisler – Corporate (Corporate Transactional) Denver
- Elizabeth B. Fawell – Government Regulatory (Food & Beverage) Washington D. C.
- Matthew Felwick – LAE (Litigation) London
- Gaston P. Fernandez – Finance (Infrastructure, Energy, Resources and Projects) Miami
- Alex Harrison – Finance (Infrastructure, Energy, Resources and Projects) London
- Jörg Herwig – Corporate (Corporate Transactional) Frankfurt
- Alex Kay – Finance (Business Restructuring and Insolvency) London
- Valerie Kenyon – LAE (Litigation) London
- Jorge Valdés – LAE (International Arbitration) Mexico City
- Inken Knief – LAE (International Arbitration) Munich
- A. Elizabeth Korchin – LAE (Litigation) New York
- Henrik Lehment – IPMT, Düsseldorf
- Stephen A. Loney Jr. – LAE (Litigation) Philadelphia
- Carla Luh – Finance (Infrastructure, Energy, Resources and Projects) Hamburg
- Désirée Maier – LAE (Investigations, White Collar and Fraud) Munich
- David B. Massey – LAE (Litigation) Miami
- Daniel S. Metroka – LAE (Investigations, White Collar and Fraud) Philadelphia
- Jeremy Pickles – Corporate (Funds) London
- Allison D. Pugsley – Government Regulatory (Government Contracts and Public Procurement) Washington D. C.
- Bryan R. Ricapito – Corporate (Funds) Washington D.C.

- Joanne Rotondi – Government Regulatory (Environment and Natural Resources) Washington D. C.
- Benjamin Schröer – IPMT, Munich
- Arne Thiermann – Corporate (Commercial) Hamburg
- Florian Unseld – Corporate (Commercial) Munich
- Hein van den Bos – Government Regulatory (Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology) Amsterdam
- Helen Xia – IPMT, Beijing
- Lu Zhou – Corporate (Corporate Transactional) Beijing

New counsel are:

- Tifarah Roberts Allen – Corporate (Corporate & Commercial) Washington D. C.
- Michael A. Applebaum – Corporate (Tax) New York
- Fiona Bantock – Corporate (Tax) London
- James Black – Corporate (Corporate FIG/ Financial Institutions Group) London
- Stella Bliss – Corporate (Real Estate) London
- Joke Bodewits – Government Regulatory (Privacy & Cybersecurity) Amsterdam
- Chava Brandriss– LAE (Litigation) Washington D. C.
- Florian Brechon – Corporate (Corporate & Commercial) Paris
- Yu-An Chang – IPMT, Shanghai
- Charles Clayton-Payne- Finance (Banking) Singapore
- Jennifer Dickey – LAE (Litigation) London
- Brian D. Eyink – Government Regulatory (Food & Beverage) Washington D. C.
- Mary Carmen Fuertes – LAE (Employment) Mexico City
- Vidal Galindo – LAE (Employment) Madrid
- Alexander Gasparyan – Finance (Banking) Moscow
- Björn Handke– LAE (Litigation) Munich
- Sabrina Handke – Corporate (Real Estate) Munich
- Danielle C. Humphrey – Government Regulatory (Medical Devices and Technology) Washington D. C.
- Thorsten Klinger – IPMT, Hamburg
- Alexander Koch – Corporate (Corporate & Commercial)

Luxembourg

- Ingo Kühl – LAE (Litigation) Düsseldorf
- Serena Lim – IPMT, Hong Kong
- Roy Liu – Government Regulatory (International Trade and Investment) Washington D. C.
- James Maltby – Finance (Business Restructuring and Insolvency) London
- Marc A. Marinaccio – LAE (Litigation) Baltimore
- Fabian Pfuhl – IPMT, Frankfurt
- Vironika Pilyugina – IPMT, Moscow
- Stefan Richter – LAE (Employment) Düsseldorf
- Bartosz Romanowski – Corporate (Corporate & Commercial)

Warsaw

- Marcus Schönknecht – IPMT, Düsseldorf
 - Aimee Sharman – Finance (Banking) London
 - Jason D. Sternberg – LAE (Litigation) Miami
 - Ben Sulaiman- Finance (Infrastructure, Energy, Resources and Projects) London
 - Adriana V. Tibbitts – Corporate (Corporate & Commercial) Baltimore
 - Thomas M. Trucksess – LAE (Litigation) Northern Virginia
 - Stella Wong – IPMT, London
 - Kate Wilford – LAE (International Arbitration) London
 - Ernest Yakob – IPMT, New York
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Williams & Connolly Elects Five Attorneys to Partnership

Williams & Connolly announces that, effective Jan. 1, 2018, Steven Cady, Colette Connor, Christopher Mandernach, Liam Montgomery, and Katherine Trefz became partners of the firm.

“We would like to extend our thanks and congratulations to the five tremendously talented lawyers who will be joining our partnership this year,” said Chairman Dane Butswinkas. “Each of these extraordinary attorneys embodies the firm’s dedication to our clients and commitment to excellence.”

The five new partners include:

Steven Cady – Cady focuses on civil and criminal trials and on government investigations, principally in matters relating to financial services and banking and on corporate governance. Cady’s practice is national in scope, having litigated cases in the state and federal courts throughout the country. His recent work includes serving as trial counsel in a month-long civil jury trial defending a national bank, serving as lead outside counsel for non-profit organizations, and defending against a federal class action lawsuit alleging hundreds of millions of dollars in damages.

Colette Connor – Connor focuses on civil and criminal trial work. She has tried bench and jury trials and has litigated in state and federal courts around the country. Most recently, Connor served as trial counsel defending against defamation and product disparagement claims seeking a multi-billion dollar damages award, and defending a first-degree murder case. Connor has represented corporate clients in a number of industries, including financial services and banking, real estate, healthcare, and media. Connor also has experience defending law firms facing malpractice and securities fraud

claims.

Christopher Mandernach – Mandernach focuses his practice on civil litigation in federal and state courts and before arbitration tribunals. He has extensive patent litigation experience, having represented brand name pharmaceutical companies, medical device manufacturers, and software companies in patent infringement matters. He has defended against legal malpractice allegations relating to patent prosecution. Mandernach has also successfully handled a range of high-stakes litigation matters related to securities, bankruptcy, and the False Claims Act.

Liam Montgomery – Montgomery focuses on civil trial work, principally in matters relating to products liability and life sciences, as well as financial services and banking, antitrust, and actuarial services. Montgomery's litigation practice extends to the state and federal courts and arbitration tribunals throughout the country. His recent work includes serving as trial counsel in a civil jury trial for the family of the inventor of groundbreaking cardiology technology, in an armed robbery criminal jury trial, and in an arbitration for a national bank.

Katherine Trefz – Trefz focuses on criminal defense and on government and internal investigations. Trefz has a national practice. Her experience includes representing companies and individuals involved in civil and criminal investigations, guiding companies through internal investigations, and serving as counsel at trial. Her recent work includes serving as trial counsel in a major federal securities trial. Her work focuses on defending against allegations of corporate dishonesty, including securities fraud, mail and wire fraud, antitrust crimes, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, and the False Claims Act.

Farrell Fritz Promotes Matthew D. Donovan and Frank T. Santoro to Partner

Farrell Fritz announces the promotions of Matthew D. Donovan and Frank T. Santoro to partner effective Jan. 1, 2018.

Matthew D. Donovan, a Scarsdale, NY resident, is a commercial litigation attorney. He earned his J.D. degree at the University of St. Thomas School of Law; his M.A. degree from Boston College and his B.A. degree from Marquette University.

Frank T. Santoro, a Forest Hills, NY resident, is an estate litigation attorney. He earned his J.D. degree from Brooklyn Law School and his B.A. from the State University of New York at Binghamton.

Two New Partners Join Freeborn in Firm's Labor and

Employment Practice

[Freeborn & Peters LLP](#) announced that attorneys James “Jim” F. Hendricks Jr. and Michael P. MacHarg have joined the firm as partners in its Litigation Practice Group. Both attorneys focus on employment counseling and litigation.

“Freeborn has been concentrating on expanding key practice areas by welcoming top-level talent,” said Rachel Atterberry, who leads the firm’s employment practice within its Litigation Practice Group. “Employment law is one of our areas of focus, and we are thrilled to have a deep bench of experience that Jim and Michael complement so well.”

Hendricks and MacHarg most recently were partners at SmithAmundsen LLC in Chicago.

In a release, the firm said:

Hendricks represents employers in union campaigns and National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) charges, as well as collective bargaining, discrimination and human resource issues. His clients work within a number of industries, including automotive, construction, hospitality, manufacturing and healthcare. He assists operations and human resource executives on a variety of issues regarding the development and implementation of employment policies and procedures. He also counsels employers facing labor and employment issues that arise in mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, and personnel transactions, and he advises on preventive labor and employment strategies and training. Throughout his career, Hendricks has handled more than 300 union representation campaigns across the nation. He has represented single employers and hundreds of companies in multi-employer negotiations covering thousands of employees, and filed appearances in more than 300 cases where a union election was being conducted by the NLRB. He also has

successfully negotiated first contracts after certification.

Hendricks received his J.D. from the Loyola University Chicago School of Law. He also holds a Master of Science from Loyola University Chicago and a Bachelor of Science from Indiana University.

MacHarg assists clients in union avoidance, collective bargaining, contract administration, unfair labor practices, grievance and arbitration, wage and hour issues, and discrimination. He represents clients in various industries, including government contractors, security, commercial laundry, manufacturing, energy, telecommunications, retail, automotive and healthcare. In more than 20 years of practicing law, MacHarg has successfully represented employers in dozens of union organizing campaigns. He has worked on more than 1,000 unfair labor practice investigations and has successfully tried many unfair labor practices cases, including defending employers against government efforts seeking injunctive relief in federal court. His experience involves vacating arbitration awards, complex and class action wage-hour matters, pension collection cases, and injunctions against picketing in Section 301 cases. He also litigates cases involving ERISA, the Railway Labor Act and unfair competition cases.

MacHarg earned his J.D. from the University of Miami School of Law and his Bachelor of Business Studies from Loyola University in Chicago.