

# **Top Biglaw Firm Gives Out Delayed Special Bonuses**

NewsHunton Andrews Kurth has announced that their firm will be matching the market standard for Biglaw special bonuses for associates, but they have to wait until the fall for their bonus.

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# **Thompson & Knight, Holland & Knight In Talks for Tie-Up**

NewsHolland & Knight and Thompson & Knight announced on Friday that they are in talks for a merger that would unite two of the largest law firms from Florida and Texas, respectively.

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# **Kirkland Lawyers Move to Posts at Private Equity Companies**

NewsNine Kirkland & Ellis lawyers have taken in-house private equity positions during the first quarter of 2021, with most leaving for legal chief roles.

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# **Biglaw Firm Raises Salaries For (Some) Associates, Offers Special Bonuses For All**

NewsBiglaw has done well – really, really well – in spite of the ongoing pandemic. In fact, the largest law firms in America have done so well that many of them are in the process of handing out millions of dollars' worth of special bonuses to their hardworking associates.

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# **ViacomCBS's Highest-Paid Lawyers Took In \$12.7M Last Year**

NewsThree lawyers were among the top six highest-paid executives at ViacomCBS Inc. in 2020, according to a proxy statement filed by the media conglomerate.

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# **Law Firm Mergers Rebound**

# After Pandemic Slowdown

NewsLaw firm mergers may quadruple by the end of the year after cratering in 2020 when offices struggled to cope with the coronavirus pandemic, an Altman Weil report released Tuesday found.

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## Two Prominent Biglaw Antitrust Lawyers Join Antitrust Boutique Bona Law

NewsBona Law, a national boutique antitrust law firm headquartered in San Diego, announced today that two prominent antitrust attorneys, Pat Pascarella and Jim Lerner, have joined the firm.

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## Big Law's Bonus Spree Fails to Curtail Risk of Associate Burnout

NewsWill Meyerhofer's patients lately tell their therapist a similar story. They are working all hours of the day and night. Being the Big Law workhorses they are, they're going along fine.

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# **Suit Alleges Biglaw Firm Used Lexisnexis Product to Inflate Bills for Flat-Fee Legal Research**

NewsA corporate litigant disputing the legal bill charged by Squire Patton Boggs has filed a third-party complaint alleging that LexisNexis helped the law firm inflate its fees.

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# **The Biglaw Lateral Market Is On FIRE Right Now**

NewsIn an effort to capture this sought-after talent, Biglaw firms are pulling out all the stops.

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# **Another Biglaw Firm Rolls Out Special Bonuses**

NewsFried Frank, a firm that place 56th on the Am Law 200 thanks to \$776,000,000 in gross revenue in 2019, announced its own special bonuses. As expected for such an elite firm,

they're matching the standard set by Davis Polk.

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## **General Counsel Role Shifts to Offense to Prevent Business Risks**

NewsThe role of general counsel and chief legal officers has shifted from a defensive position to an offensive one.

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## **BigLaw Partner Added 'Fictional Hours' to Client Bills, Meriting a 2-Year Suspension**

NewsMassachusetts' top court ruled Thursday that a Duane Morris litigation partner got off too easy when she was suspended for six months for overbilling clients at her prior law firm, saying her actions reflected manifest "dishonesty" and deserved a two-year suspension instead.

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# Associate Scorecard

# Compensation

NewsA trend that was started by Willkie on Friday, March 19, 2021 (offering between \$7,500 and \$40,000), and quickly one-upped by Davis Polk on Monday, March 22, 2021 (offering between \$12,000 and \$64,000) – many firms quickly fell in line and matched the generous scale.

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## Hogan Lovells launches Corporate & Finance Legal Service Center in Louisville

NewsGlobal law firm Hogan Lovells has opened a Legal Service Center (LSC) in the firm's Louisville office. The LSC provides dedicated services to the Corporate & Finance practice with an initial focus on due diligence analysis and review services. The LSC is co-located with the firm's existing Global Business Service team.

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## Bonuses May Not Be Enough to Solve Big Law's Associate

# Problem

NewsA new pair of bonuses recently introduced by Big Law to reward and retain associates may not be enough to keep them in their seats in a hot job market and amid what recruiters call increasing lawyer burnout.

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## Day Pitney Expands Into Rhode Island

NewsDay Pitney LLP announced that it will expand its East Coast presence through a merger with Rhode Island-based law firm Howland Evangelista Kohlenberg LLP, a dedicated trusts and estates boutique handling complex and sophisticated planning, probate and trust matters for high net worth individuals and families.

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## Biglaw Firm Back with Special Bonus

NewsCooley – a firm that hadn't announced any compensation cuts – stepped up and offered special bonuses ranging from \$2,500 to \$7,500 for all associates and counsel. Of course, Davis Polk upped the ante (just like the firm did this spring), but Cooley deserves all the credit in the world. Now, the firm is here to match Davis Polk once again.

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# **Am Law Top 20 Firm Antes Up With Special Bonus Bucks For Associates, Counsel**

NewsWhich firm is the latest to fall in line and offer up bountiful bonuses in recognition of its attorneys' hard work?

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# **Debevoise to Pay Extra Bonuses in 'Time of Exceptional Demands'**

NewsDebevoise & Plimpton's associates and counsel in the U.S. will receive special bonuses in June and September of this year, as Big Law seeks to reward lawyers for their hard work during Covid-19 and to retain valuable talent.