

# Lateral Partner Moves in London

 July-August 2018

Welcome to the latest round-up of lateral partner moves in the legal market from Edwards Gibson; where we look back at announced partner-level recruitment activity in London over the past two months and give you a ‘who’s moved where’ update.

Compared with the preceding two years, 2018 has been a quiet year and this edition is no exception; we recorded a total of 44 lateral partner moves - 33% down on the same period last year and 19% lower than the statistical average for the preceding five-year period.

Edwards Gibson does not record hires made through law firm mergers so, in the absence of **Withers’** acquisition of UK technology boutique **JAG Shaw Baker** - which saw the firm take on five partners in London - nearly all of the top hirers in this round-up were US law firms. The largest single team move was by **Morgan Lewis** which nabbed three corporate partners from **Herbert Smith. Latham & Watkins** has once more demonstrated its buying power in the London market by snapping up two magic circle partners in their prime, this time from **Allen & Overy** and **Clifford Chance**, to launch a new infrastructure offering.

#### Top partner recruiters in London July-August 2018

✔ Latham & Watkins	4
✔ CMS Cameron McKenna	3
✔ Morgan Lewis	3
✔ White & Case	3

Also of note in this round-up, the normally ultra-conservative all equity White Shoe firm **Sullivan & Cromwell** made a rare lateral hire from fellow New Yorker **Shearman & Sterling**, whilst Shearman & Sterling itself reclaimed one of its own in the form of US high yield expert Ward McKimm, who has re-joined his old firm after a three year stint at **Freshfields**.

Earlier this year we observed just how active the White Collar Crime market has been over the past couple of years and this edition is no exception with four firms - **Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner**, **DLA Piper**, **Mayer Brown** and **Stewarts** - making hires in that space.

**Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like to discuss this article or any other aspect of the market in more depth.**

The Edwards Gibson Team

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✓ **Ashurst**

Ashurst has hired Mayer Brown contentious construction and infrastructure partner **Tom Duncan**. Duncan advises on all aspects of construction and engineering law, with a particular focus on dispute resolution.

✓ **Bates Wells Braithwaite**

Bates Wells Braithwaite has hired real estate lawyer **Malcolm Headley** from Gowling WLG. Headley focuses on commercial property and real estate finance matters.

✓ **BLM**

BLM has welcomed **James Beresford** from Slater and Gordon, and **Jonathan Askin** from Weightmans. Beresford, who splits his time between Manchester and London, was head of the wills, tax, trusts and probate team. Whereas Askin focuses on non-contentious commercial law.

✓ **Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner**

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner has appointed **Mukul Chawla QC** from Foundry Chambers to lead its Corporate Crime team. Chawla's expertise includes fraud, bribery and corruption, money laundering and sanctions.

✓ **CMS Cameron Mckenna**

CMS has hired a trio of partners in this edition: **Elisabeth Bremmer** from Norton Rose Fulbright, **Laura Houët** from Eversheds Sutherland and **Catherine Gelder** from Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner. Bremmer specialises in contentious financial service matters - including market abuse and insider trading. Houët is a regulated funds specialist, with a particular focus on real estate funds, and joins as a partner having been a principal associate at her former firm. Gelder's practice covers contentious construction and engineering.

✓ **Capsticks**

Capsticks has acquired **Stephen Tainsh** from Blake Morgan to lead the firm's new Medical Technology group. Tainsh is a corporate, commercial and finance lawyer with particular expertise in relation to the 'Med Tech' sector.

✓ **Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle**

New York firm Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle has hired Gibson Dunn & Crutcher disputes lawyer, **Mark Handley**. Handley will join as a partner having been of counsel at Gibson Dunn & Crutcher and will lead the firm's London litigation practice.

✓ **Dechert**

Dechert has welcomed Sidley Austin's global litigation co-head, **Dorothy Cory-Wright**, and Hogan Lovells corporate lawyer, **Robert Darwin**. Cory-Wright focuses on commercial litigation and will join as London head of commercial disputes. Darwin advises on M&A and private equity deals, particularly in the life sciences and healthcare sectors.

✓ **DLA Piper**

DLA Piper has bolstered its Litigation and Regulatory practice with the hire of white collar crime and regulatory lawyer **Patrick Rappo**. Rappo, a former SFO lawyer, joins from US firm Steptoe Johnson.

✓ **Eversheds Sutherland**

Eversheds Sutherland has welcomed back retail financial services lawyer **Naomi Seward** into the Consumer Finance team. Seward returns to Eversheds Sutherland as a partner following a short stint in-house at client Barclays.

Fieldfisher

Fieldfisher has hired **Phillipe Freund** from litigation boutique Joseph Hage Aaronson. Freund, an employed barrister at his previous firm, joins as partner in the firm's Tax Disputes and Investigations team.

Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson

Fried Frank has recruited funds lawyer **Sam Wilson** from Simpson Thacher & Bartlett. Wilson joins as a partner having been counsel at his previous firm. He specialises in private investment funds, with a particular focus on European fund formation.

Hamblins

West End firm Hamblins has recruited media lawyer **Callum Galbraith** who re-joins the firm from Russells Solicitors. Galbraith has extensive experience of litigating in the media and entertainment industries, with a specific focus on defamation, privacy and reputation management.

Hogan Lovells

Hogan Lovells has announced the hire of **Nicola Fulford** from Kemp Little. Fulford was previously head of data protection and privacy at Kemp Little, and specialises in complex cyber security matters.

HFW

HFW has acquired Ince & Co shipping and contentious construction lawyer, **Kijong Nam**. Nam is a dispute resolution lawyer who advises on offshore construction and shipbuilding; acting for ship owners, oil and gas companies, contractors and insurance companies.

Jones Day

Jones Day has bolstered its finance practice with the additions of **Ewen Scott** and **Lee Federman** from Ashurst and Dentons respectively. Scott focuses on bilateral and syndicated financings, refinancings and restructurings, and Federman has a particular focus on leveraged finance and corporate lending.

King & Wood Mallesons

King & Wood Mallesons has hired financial service regulatory lawyer, **Alix Prentice**. Prentice joins from Withers and advises on the regulation of banks, financial institutions, and asset managers.

Latham & Watkins

A quartet of partners join the acquisitive US firm Latham & Watkins this round up. Restructuring lawyers **Yen Sum** and **Jennifer Brennan** join from Sidley Austin together with infrastructure led private equity specialist **Brendan Moylan** from Clifford Chance and infrastructure finance lawyer **Conrad Andersen** from Allen & Overy. Sum and Brennan both focus on a wide range of restructuring matters. Moylan's practice focuses on domestic and cross border M&A, and Andersen focuses on infrastructure M&A and project finance.

Marriot Harrison

Marriot Harrison welcomes employment lawyer **Robert Mecrate-Butcher** from Locke Lord. Mecrate-Butcher advises employer clients and has particular experience in the financial services industries.

Mayer Brown

Mayer Brown has expanded its disputes group with the hire of white collar crime duo **Sam Eastwood** and **Jason Hungerford** from Norton Rose Fulbright. Eastwood has particular expertise

in relation to anti-bribery and regulatory compliance matters, and he established and led the Business Ethics and Anti-Corruption practice at his previous firm. Hungerford is a dual UK and US qualified lawyer who advises on investigations and compliance matters.

✦ **McDermott Will & Emery**

McDermott Will & Emery has hired Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner structured finance partner **Rachel Kelly**. Kelly focuses on securitisations particularly in relation to commercial real estate and infrastructure, and warehouse finance, as well as CLOs and other structured products.

✦ **Morgan Lewis & Bockius**

Morgan Lewis & Bockius has hired a trio of corporate lawyers, **Mark Geday**, **Nicholas Moore** and **Tomasz Wozniak**, all from Herbert Smith Freehills. Geday specialises in asset management and private equity. Moore focuses on technology, media and telecoms, and Wozniak specialises in public and private M&A and private equity.

✦ **Morrison & Foerster**

**Benoit Lavigne** has joined Morrison & Foerster from fellow US firm Ropes & Gray. Lavigne focuses on leveraged and acquisition finance, as well as special situations lending, refinancing and IPO financing.

✦ **Payne Hicks Beach**

Payne Hicks Beach has hired **Lucas Moore** from Jones Day. Moore brings expertise in commercial disputes, and his practice includes financial services, trade, insolvency and corporate governance/shareholder issues.

✦ **Shearman & Sterling**

**Ward McKimm** has re-joined Shearman & Sterling after three years at Freshfields. McKimm will join the firm's capital markets practice focusing on high-yield bond offerings and US capital markets.

✦ **Stephenson Harwood**

Stephenson Harwood LLP has hired financial services regulatory lawyer **Jake Pidcock**, who re-joins the firm from the UK's Financial Conduct Authority. His focus has encompassed AIFMD, UCITS market regulation and Brexit.

✦ **Stewarts**

Litigation boutique Stewarts has welcomed **Richard Kovalevsky QC** from 2 Bedford Row. Kovalevsky joins as head of white collar crime, and has expertise advising investigating, defending bribery, corruption and fraud matters.

✦ **Strange & Butler**

**Ben Lasserson** has joined anti-trust monetary recovery boutique Strange & Butler as head of its London office. Lasserson, the US firm's forth partner globally, joins from Pinsent Masons where he was head of competition litigation. He specialises in antitrust litigation, arbitration, and dispute resolution procedures.

✦ **Sullivan & Cromwell**

White-shoe firm Sullivan & Cromwell has made a rare lateral hire in London with the acquisition of M&A lawyer **Jeremy Kutner** from fellow New Yorker Shearman & Sterling. Kutner led the TMT group at his previous firm, and his practice covers a broad range of corporate transactions including M&A, joint ventures, equity issues, IPOs and restructurings.

✦ **Weightmans**

Weightmans has hired aviation lawyer **Andrew Krause** to lead its Aviation group. Krause joins the firm from Clyde & Co, where he was a senior associate. His practice covers all aspects of aviation related liability work, as well as regulatory and broader contentious commercial advice.

✦ **White & Case**

White & Case has recruited three partners in this round-up: private equity specialist **Emmie Jones** from Macfarlanes, contentious construction and engineering partner **David Robertson** from Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner, and litigation partner **Steven Baker** from Cadwalader, Wickersham & Taft. Jones' practice includes cross-border private equity transactions as well as advisory work for portfolio companies. Robertson acts on construction, energy and infrastructure projects, while Baker focuses on disputes in the technology and finance sectors.

To see previous issues of the Partner Moves round up click [here](#).

✦ **The Specialist Partner Team**



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