

Lateral Partner Moves in London



March/April 2014

✓ Ashfords

A&O senior associate Jon Bola and Gordon Dadds partner Paul Barnes will join Ashfords in its new London office. The addition of Bola, property investment specialist, marks a strengthening of the firm's real estate finance capacity while Barnes will take up a role in the firm's residential property team.

✓ Allen & Overy

Allen & Overy has bagged its second private equity partner from Ashurst in the past six months with the hire of Karan Dinamani. She follows in the footsteps of Ashurst's former head of corporate Stephen Lloyd, who joined the magic circle firm's corporate group as co-head of its private equity practice after resigning in November.

✓ Bird & Bird

The firm fortifies its strength in trademarks with the hire of Mark Holah. Holah joins from Field Fisher Waterhouse, where he was head of trademarks.

✓ Collyer Bristow

Collyer Bristow has recruited experienced international private client tax specialist William Hancock from Speechly Bircham, where he had been a partner since 1999.

✓ Constantine Cannon

Richard Pike joins US firm Constantine Cannon's antitrust litigation and counselling practice, after 14 years with Baker & McKenzie, to complement and enhance the firm's existing specialist capabilities.

✓ Cozen O'Connor

Edwards Wildman Palmer aerospace reinsurance partner Mark Meyer and RPC insurance partner Paul Dowsey both join the City office of Philadelphia-based insurance firm Cozen O'Connor.

✓ Dentons

Dominic Pellew, a partner at Baker Botts, is joining Dentons' international arbitration group. Pellew, who is dual-qualified as a solicitor in England and as an avocat in France, will divide his time between the firm's London and Moscow offices.

✓ DWF

The firm continues to bolster its offering in the City with three lateral hires. Pinsent Masons head of financial institutions and human capital Stephen Miles is to head up DWF's commercial services business; real estate finance partner Simon Elphick will join from Lawrence Graham; and corporate partner Tim Leeson joins from the London office of US firm Crowell & Moring.

✓ DLA Piper

DLA Piper secures multiple lateral appointments. A triple hire from BLP saw head of real estate finance Laurence Rogers join the firm alongside commercial real estate partner Richard Hopkinson-Woolley and corporate tax partner Neville Wright.

The firm has also turned to Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe in London for litigation partners Tony Katz and Sam Millar, whilst Paul Gray joins as a partner from Sidley Austin, where he was a senior associate in the global finance group.

✓ Eversheds & Young

The big four professional services firm is ramping up its investment in the legal sector. Addleshaw Goddard's corporate head Phillip Goodstone has been appointed to establish its legal capability in the UK and he is joined by former BLP head of finance Matthew Kellett. Both will officially join in September.

EY is known to have applied for an ABS licence.

✓ Eversheds

Steven Hull has been appointed partner within Eversheds' London office and joins from the law firm Ashurst where he was head of the pensions department.

✓ Field Fisher Waterhouse

FFW has bolstered its finance group with the hire of former Simmons & Simmons banking and finance partner, Philip Abbott, who joins the top 40 firm at the end of the month.

✓ Freshfields

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer has made a significant move in the capital markets space with the hire of former Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton US corporate partner Ash Qureshi.

◆ Gibson Dunn & Crutcher

Corporate partner, Jonathan Earle, has left Ashurst after 16 years to join US firm Gibson Dunn & Crutcher's City corporate practice. Earle will continue his corporate practice, focusing on cross-border mergers and acquisitions in his new role.

◆ Herbert Smith

Herbert Smith Freehills has made a major regulatory hire with Deutsche Bank's global head of compliance, governance and regulatory affairs Andrew Proctor set to join its global financial services regulatory practice in June.

◆ Hogan Lovells

Hogan Lovells has gained two banking real estate finance partners with duo Andrew Flemming and Jo Solomon set to join the top 10 LB100 firm from BLP.

◆ Irwin Mitchell

This firm sees a double hire announced this roundup. Former head of trademarks at Unilever, Katrina Burchell, joins its intellectual property team and insolvency litigator Edward Judge joins the firm's London office from SGH Martineau marking the firm's 21st hire into its commercial practice since the start of 2012.

◆ Jones Day

Jones Day has added to its tally of laterals from BLP by recruiting former head of restructuring Ben Larkin and leveraged finance partner Paul Simcock. The new recruits mark Jones Day's third and fourth partner hire from BLP since August 2013.

◆ Kennedys

Boosting its City practice, top 30 firm Kennedys has brought in the former insurance practice group head of CMS Cameron McKenna's Hong Kong office, Michael Skrbic, as a partner in London.

◆ King & Spalding

Berwin Leighton Paisner's head of banking and finance litigation, David Hughes, is set to leave the firm to join the litigation team at King & Spalding.

◆ Latham & Watkins

It's been a period of significant acquisitions for global elite firm, Latham & Watkins as BLP's structured finance partner, Lucy Oddy, is set to join along with

private funds specialist, Tom Alabaster, from the Carlyle Group.

◆ Mishcon de Reya

Mishcon de Reya announced last week that Alison Levitt QC, the principal legal adviser to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) of England and Wales, is to join the firm as a dispute resolution partner launching a business crime unit.

◆ Morgan Lewis

The US firm has added to its ranks with the hire of corporate partner Stephen Walters from Bird & Bird. As a former Dewey & LeBoeuf partner, Walters will join a number of former colleagues at Morgan Lewis, including its London managing partner Peter Sharp, who led Dewey's London practice up until the firm collapsed in 2012. Walters' arrival adds to the four lateral hires that Morgan Lewis made in 2013/14.

◆ Nabarro

Dispute resolution partner Lee Gluyas joins Nabarro from DLA Piper, where he was head of IT litigation.

◆ Norton Rose Fulbright

Norton Rose Fulbright has hired David Stevens, who will join the London team from Maples Teesdale as a disputes partner specialising in contentious real estate.

◆ Olswang

Former Gateley insolvency litigator Louise Bell joins Olswang's commercial litigation, insolvency and civil fraud team where she brings her focus on substantial claims brought by insolvency practitioners.

◆ Penningtons Manches

Séamas Gray, former Olswang restructuring and insolvency partner, has joined Penningtons Manches to develop the team following the firm's merger last October.

◆ Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman

US firm Pillsbury has bolstered its English law capability with the hire of a five-lawyer transportation finance team from the London office of DLA Piper including partners Graham Tyler, the former head of the asset finance practice, and Debra Erni. Both will join at the beginning of May with three associates.

✦ Pinsent Masons

Nicholle Kingsley has joined Pinsent Masons' planning team from Herbert Smith Freehills. Her appointment comes just days after Pinsent Masons was voted the top planning law firm in the UK by Planning magazine in its 2014 annual survey.

✦ PwC Legal

Field Fisher Waterhouse's TMT practice has taken a hit as technology and outsourcing specialist Stewart Room is leaving for PwC's legal arm. Room, who is to lead PwC's cross-service offering on cyber and data security, is the latest hire for the accounting giant's legal services capability since it secured alternative business structure (ABS) status from the Solicitors Regulation Authority (SRA) in January.

✦ Reed Smith

Reed Smith is continuing to ramp up its City practice, its largest office globally, with the hire of King & Wood Mallesons SJ Berwin litigator Nick Brocklesby.

✦ SGH Martineau

The firm has added partner Neale Downes to its corporate banking team. He joined in March 2014, having spent nearly 12 years working in the Gulf (in Bahrain and Dubai) with Trowers & Hamlin and Taylor Wessing.

✦ Squire Sanders

Squire Sanders has hired former Berwin Leighton Paisner director of China business, Michelle Chen, as a partner in its global corporate practice.

✦ Stephenson Harwood

James Quarmby, head of international and business taxation at south east firm Thomas Eggar, joined the firm as a partner to spearhead the expansion of its private wealth offering.

✦ TLT Solicitors

This roundup sees a significant hire for TLT with former head of employment at media and commercial law firm Michael Simkins, Mark McQuillan. The highly ranked recruit's practice focuses on retail & consumer goods and financial services.

✦ Weil, Gotshal & Manges

The New York law firm has taken a major step with the hire of Goldman Sachs' European head and overall co-head of restructuring Andrew Wilkinson.

✦ Wedlake Bell

Construction partner Helen Garthwaite joins LB100 firm Wedlake Bell from Taylor Wessing where she had been a partner for nearly 13 years leading the firm's UK construction & engineering group for six of those.

✦ Weightmans

Rachel Kneale has been hired as a partner and head of London clinical negligence for Weightmans. She joins from Hempsons.

✦ Wragge & Co

With its £171m merger with City firm Lawrence Graham set to go live on 1 May, Wragges has recruited the former London head of employment at Irwin Mitchell, John Hayes, to its employment team.

✦ ABOUT EDWARDS GIBSON

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