

Lateral Partner Moves in London



September-
October 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.

After a relatively subdued start to 2018, where at the half year point partner hires were down by nearly a quarter on 2017, there were 90 partner hires in this edition – 17% up on the same period last year and 18% up on the statistical average over the preceding 5 year period. The overall number of lateral hires was particularly high considering there were no large team moves consisting of three or more partners.

A recurring theme of the past two years has been the sheer volume of partner hires in Corporate Crime/ Investigations and this round-up is no exception. Five firms, **Addleshaw Goddard, BLM, DWF Kingsley Napley** and **RPC**, have all announced lateral hires in this space, in two instances at the expense of the SFO.



Also of note is the disproportionately high number of corporate tax moves – fully 7% of all hires recorded in this edition were in tax with partners joining **DLA Piper, Greenberg Traurig, Katten Muchin Rosenman, Mayer Brown, Osborne Clarke** and **Wiggin**.

By far the most acquisitive firm over the past two months was **White & Case** which snapped up a half dozen new partners across a diverse range of practice areas from disputes to structured products.

Top partner recruiters in London September – October 2018

	White & Case	6
	Addleshaw Goddard	3
	Fladgate	3
	DLA Piper	3
	TLT Solicitors	3

Also of note:

-  8 laterals moved from in-house including two from the SFO;
-  Excluding moves from in-house, 22% of all laterals were non-partners moving into partnership;

- ✦ 15% of all laterals were Heads of Department at their previous firm;
- ✦ Whilst it has been announced in the press that private equity and tax duo Mark Soundy and Sarah Priestley are departing from **Goodwin Procter**, this move has not been recorded in this edition as their destination is yet to be confirmed.

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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◆ Addleshaw Goddard

Addleshaw Goddard has recruited three partners: Stephenson Harwood's **Richard Small**, Roseland Services Director **James Dawson**, and CMS counsel **David Pygott**. Small joins the Financial Services Regulatory group to advise financial institutions and corporates, with a focus on investment managers and private wealth. Dawson specialises in public and private M&A, particularly in the financial services, TMT, and energy sectors, and he will return to the firm's Corporate team, having left in 2012 to join Macfarlanes. Pygott joins the Global Investigations team, and has extensive experience in defending high-profile clients in FCA and white collar crime investigations involving allegations of bribery and corruption.

◆ Akin Gump

Thomas O'Connor will join Akin Gump's Global Debt Finance team from Morgan Lewis where he was head of transactional finance. The US-qualified lawyer has expertise advising institutional investors, insurance companies, and investment funds on the acquisition of privately placed debt and equity securities and other financing transactions.

◆ Allen & Overy

International arbitration lawyer **Suzanne Spears** has joined Allen & Overy from specialist public international law firm Volterra Fietta, where she was head of Business and Human Rights law. Spears is an international law and investment treaty specialist.

◆ Ashfords

Ashfords has welcomed Fladgate investment funds specialist **Philip Turner** to its Real Estate Investment & Asset Management group. Turner acts for high-net-worth individuals, banks, and

FCA authorised fund promoters in relation to investment property.

◆ Ashurst

Chris Georgiou has returned to Ashurst as a partner and co-head of its alternative legal services offering Ashurst Advance. Georgiou was a former securities and derivatives partner at the firm, before leaving to join Fieldfisher in 2016 as CEO of the firm's alternative legal solutions platform, Condor.

◆ Asserson

Asserson has strengthened its real estate offering with the addition of **Adrian Wallace** from Fladgate. Wallace advises residential and commercial developers, particularly in relation to the acquisition and disposal of brownfield development sites.

◆ Baker Botts

Baker Botts has nabbed a brace of corporate partners: **David Ramm** and **Richard Brown**, from Morgan Lewis & Bockius and Latham & Watkins respectively. Ramm specialises in private equity, venture capital, and M&A work in the technology sector, and Brown specialises in capital market and corporate matters.

◆ Baker McKenzie

Baker McKenzie has welcomed two new partners: structured finance lawyer **Matthew Dening** and US capital markets lawyer **Haden Henderson**. Dening is returning to the firm after a 14-year stint at Sidley Austin, where he was co-head of the London Global Finance team and former London managing partner; he has a focus on derivatives. Henderson has joined the Corporate Finance team from Ropes & Gray, where he was counsel. Henderson is a New York qualified lawyer and he specialises in high yield debt offerings.

✦ **BLM**

Iskander Fernandez has joined BLM's White Collar Crime and Investigations team as a partner having previously been an associate at CMS. Fernandez's expertise includes advising both high-net worth individuals and corporates in relation to a variety of crime proceedings initiated by the SFO, CPS or HMRC.

✦ **Boodle Hatfield**

Real Estate Finance lawyer **Adam Chamberlain** has joined Boodle Hatfield from Shoosmiths. Chamberlain acts for both lenders and borrowers, with a particular focus on development and hotel finance.

✦ **Bristows**

Bristows has acquired **Marc Dautlich**, former head of information law at Pinsent Masons. Dautlich advises financial services clients on matters relating to fintech, cybersecurity and data protection.

✦ **Brown Rudnick**

Brown Rudnick has boosted its corporate offering with the addition of partner **Philip Watkins**, who joins from fellow US outfit Katten Muchin Rosenman. Watkins' practice covers a wide range of corporate transactions, including cross-border M&A and private equity transactions.

✦ **Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner**

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner has strengthened its projects and infrastructure finance offering with the addition of **Tom Eldridge** from Mayer Brown. Eldridge advises on a range of project and export finance transactions, with a particular focus on the mining sector.

✦ **Cohen & Gresser**

US litigation boutique Cohen & Gresser, which launched its London office earlier this year, has hired former SFO case controller **John Gibson** as a partner to launch its White Collar and Investigations practice in the City.

✦ **Dentons**

Deepa Deb joins Dentons' Real Estate practice from Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner. Deb, a leading real estate specialist, advises on matters relating to residential-led mixed use developments, student accommodation and hotel/leisure facilities.

✦ **DLA Piper**

DLA Piper has made a trio of hires in this round-up: Greenberg Traurig tax heavyweight **Clive Jones**, Pinsent Masons construction lawyer **Sarah Thomas**, and RPC insurance and litigation specialist **Rebecca Hopkirk**. Jones' practice focuses on real estate tax, and his move to DLA will reunite him with a number of former colleagues from his time at KWM. Thomas has extensive experience advising on major infrastructure projects, with a focus on the energy, mining, water and waste sectors. Hopkirk specialises in international property, energy, and heavy industrial losses and claims for insurers.

✦ **Dorsey & Whitney**

Dorsey & Whitney have bolstered its Banking and Finance group with the hire of **Phillip Slater** from Morrison & Foerster. Slater specialises in corporate debt finance across a broad range of sectors.

✦ **DWF**

DWF has appointed regulatory and white collar crime lawyer **Richard Burger** as head of its Financial Services Regulatory Investigations team. Burger joins from RPC and represents

clients in investigations conducted by the FCA, SFO, NCA and HMRC.

✦ **ebl miller rosenfalck**

Simon Mason is the latest addition to the ebl miller rosenfalck Disputes team, having previously been head of litigation at Bawtrees.

✦ **Eversheds Sutherland**

Eversheds Sutherland has strengthened its privacy and cybersecurity offering with the appointment of **Simon Morrissey** from Lewis Silkin. Morrissey advises on the full range of data protection issues across a range of sectors, including advertising and marketing, retail, leisure and media.

✦ **Fieldfisher LLP**

Fieldfisher has hired regulatory and trade lawyer **Andrew Hood**. Hood joins as a partner, having previously been a Senior Director in Dechert's International Trade and Government Regulation team. His experience covers EU, trade, regulatory, and public international law.

✦ **Fladgate**

Fladgate has hired a trio of new partners in this round-up: real estate lawyers **Simon Kanter** and **Alan Karsberg** from CMS, and corporate lawyer **Sandra Bates** from Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman. Kanter and Karsberg specialise in large-scale real estate investment deals, asset management and corporate occupier work. Bates' experience covers cross-border transactions in the mining, oil and gas and technology sectors.

✦ **Forsters**

Forsters has welcomed Bircham Dyson Bell duo **Christopher Findley** and **Henry Cecil** to the firm's Private Client practice, where they will be

specialising in landed estates work. Findley was head of agricultural estates and rural property, while Cecil specialised in transactions concerning the purchase of estates.

✦ **Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP**

Fried Frank has hired corporate lawyer **Ashar Qureshi** from Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer. Qureshi focuses on international corporate matters, including capital markets, M&A and corporate finance, and he will head the EMEA Global Transactions team at his new firm.

✦ **Greenberg Traurig**

Greenberg has acquired leading tax partner **Ben Eaton** from Goodwin Procter. Eaton specialises in the tax aspects of real estate investment and financing, private equity transactions and cross-border investments.

✦ **Grosvenor Law**

Mark Hastings has joined Mayfair disputes firm Grosvenor Law, having left Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan earlier this year. Hastings is known for representing high-profile clients in cross-border litigation.

✦ **Hewitsons**

Corporate lawyer **Emma Shipp** has joined Hewitsons as head of business services, having previously been both head of corporate and head of the London office at Shakespeare Martineau. Shipp advises on a range of transactions from incorporation and seed investment through mergers and acquisitions to disposals and re-organisations.

✦ **HFW**

HFW has welcomed regulatory lawyer **Carol-Ann Burton** into its Insurance and Reinsurance group, and project finance lawyer **Andrew Thomas** from

Hunton Andrews Kurth. Thomas advises international energy companies, financial institutions and governments on project financing transactions in the energy, oil and gas, and transport sectors. Burton rejoins the firm having previously been a consultant at HFW, prior to a two-year stint as regulatory counsel for the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority.

◆ Hodge Jones & Allen

Hodge Jones & Allen has welcomed **Joseph Nicholls** into its Employment team. He joins as a partner, having previously been a senior associate at DAS Law. Nicholls handles both contentious and non-contentious employment matters.

◆ Howard Kennedy

Howard Kennedy has hired corporate finance partner **James Wilson** from HFW. He joins the firm's Capital Markets group and will head its Alternative Investment Market (AIM) group.

◆ Irwin Mitchell

Irwin Mitchell has recruited two new partners: Sainsbury's Bank's head of legal **Winston Green**, who has expertise in technology transactions and data protection advisory work, and Darlington's Solicitors corporate partner **Debbie Serota**.

◆ K&L Gates

K&L Gates has hired Reed Smith private equity lawyer **James Cross**. His experience includes acting for investors in buy-outs, auction sales, secondary investments, restructurings, and acquisitions.

◆ Katten Muchin Rosenman

Katten Muchin Rosenman has welcomed **Charlotte Sallabank** from Jones Day into its Transactional Tax Planning group. Sallabank is an

authority on corporate tax matters and her practice covers transactional, planning, advisory and dispute resolution issues.

◆ King & Wood Mallesons

Banking lawyer **Khai Nguyen** has joined King & Wood Mallesons as a partner from Gowling WLG, where he was a Director. Nguyen acts for lenders, borrowers and pension trustees in relation to a variety of cross-border financing transactions.

◆ Kingsley Napley

Kingsley Napley has welcomed two new partners: **James Ward** from Seddons joins as head of the Private Client practice, and SFO general counsel **Alun Milford** joins as a partner in the firm's Criminal Litigation practice. Ward advises both domestic and international families and individuals on a range of matters including wealth protection and tax mitigation. Milford has expertise in overseeing white collar crime and international investigations, as well as compliance and enforcement matters.

◆ Kirkland & Ellis

In a rare move, Kirkland & Ellis hired professional support lawyer **Kate Stephenson** as a partner in its Restructuring practice. Stephenson joins the firm from Weil Gotshal & Manges, where she was a consultant and had a "hybrid" role carrying out standard PSL tasks in addition to fee-earning work. She joins the team to provide professional support in restructuring and insolvency matters, as well as leading on business development.

◆ Maurice Turnor Gardner

Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner's head of private client litigation, **Rupert Ticehurst**, has left the firm to join boutique private wealth firm Maurice Turnor Gardner as head of litigation. Ticehurst's practice focuses on trust and estates litigation.

✓ **Mayer Brown**

Mayer Brown has announced the hires of tax lawyer **Simon Rose** from Michelmores and finance lawyer **Paul Tannenbaum** from Fried Frank. Rose was head of tax at Michelmores, and he advises on a wide range of tax matters with a focus on funds in the real estate and private equity sectors. Tannenbaum joins the firm's Banking and Finance practice in London as a partner, having been an associate at his previous firm.

✓ **Memery Crystal**

Daniel Tunkel joins Memery Crystal from Howard Kennedy as head of financial regulation. His expertise includes advising fund managers, broker-dealers, private asset managers, and banks.

✓ **Mills & Reeve**

Mills & Reeve has welcomed private client lawyer **Sarah Cormack** from Withers. Cormack specialises in advising high-net-worth individuals on tax, trusts, and estate planning matters.

✓ **Mishcon de Reya**

David Cummings joins Mishcon de Reya's Employment team from Allen & Overy, where he was a senior associate. Cummings' practice covers both contentious and non-contentious employment matters.

✓ **Moon Beever**

Moon Beever has welcomed two new partners: Shakespeare Martineau insolvency specialist **Christina Fitzgerald** and Meade King private client lawyer **Richard Boulding**, who will head the firm's Private Client team in London.

✓ **Morgan Lewis & Bockius**

Morgan Lewis & Bockius has welcomed technology duo **Mike Pierides** and **Simon Lightman** from Pillsbury, where they were partner and counsel respectively. They will join the firm's corporate practice where they will specialise in IT and outsourcing transactions.

✓ **Norton Rose Fulbright**

Norton Rose Fulbright has announced the hire of compliance, regulatory and white collar defense lawyer **Jeffrey Cottle** from Steptoe & Johnson. Cottle's practice focuses on compliance program design and implementation, as well as overseeing investigations conducted by international regulatory and enforcement bodies, and he will split his time between London and Washington, DC.

✓ **Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe**

Simpson Thacher counsel **James Connor** and Milbank Tweed special counsel **Daniel Wayte** have both joined Orrick's Private Equity team as partners. Connor acts for private equity firms, investment banks, and corporate clients. Wayte acts for private equity and hedge fund clients on a range of cross-border corporate transactions.

✓ **Osborne Clarke**

Osborne Clarke has recruited two partners: employment lawyer **Andrew Chamberlain** from DWF and tax lawyer **Mathew Oliver** from Bird & Bird. Chamberlain was the national head of employment at his previous firm, and his expertise covers all aspects of the employment relationship. Oliver was head of the UK and international tax group at his previous firm and has experience advising on the tax aspects of mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, and private equity transactions, particularly in the digital sector.

✦ Pinsent Masons

Pinsent Masons has recruited two partners: Dentons energy and infrastructure lawyer **John Woolley** and Linklaters corporate insurance counsel **Madhu Jain**. Woolley has advised a range of clients in the infrastructure sectors on the development, construction, and operation of a wide range of facilities. Jain specialises in advising insurers and pension scheme trustees on corporate transactions, including M&A, de-risking, and reorganisations.

✦ Reed Smith

Reed Smith has made two hires in this round-up. **Omar Al-Ali** joins the firm's Energy and Natural Resources group from Simmons & Simmons, and Dechert counsel **Kevin-Paul Deveau** joins the firm's Finance group as a partner. Al-Ali has experience advising clients on various trade and commodities finance matters and Deveau's practice focuses on advising lenders and fund managers on a range of finance transactions.

✦ RPC

RPC has expanded its white collar crime offering with the hire of **Sam Tate** from leading financial crime consultancy, Exiger, where he worked alongside newly appointed SFO Director, Lisa Osofsky. Tate has extensive experience in complex cross-border investigations and crime prevention programs.

✦ Stephenson Harwood

Joe O'Keeffe joins Stephenson Harwood from Ince & Co where he was global head of insurance. O'Keeffe specialises in marine and energy insurance, and has particular expertise advising insurers on coverage issues, casualties, and disputed claims.

✦ Taylor Wessing

Taylor Wessing has welcomed construction and engineering lawyer **Jonathan Hutt** from RPC, and hired Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner senior associate **Kunal Vyas** into the Private Client team as a partner. Hutt specialises in dispute avoidance and resolution, with a focus on construction and engineering disputes. Vyas has experience representing both domestic and international clients in relation to personal taxation and wealth planning matters.

✦ Thomas Cooper

Thomas Cooper bolstered its Shipping and Yachting group with the hire of **Sarah Allan** as a partner. Allan was a partner at specialist maritime firm Bentleys, Stokes & Lowless where she gained experience in commercial shipping and insurance disputes.

✦ Three Crowns LLP

Reza Mohtashami QC has joined litigation specialist Three Crowns as a partner, having spent 19 years as an international arbitration partner at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer. He advises on high-value international disputes with a focus on the energy, infrastructure, and telecommunications sectors.

✦ TLT Solicitors

TLT is continuing to grow its London base with the addition of three new partners: technology specialist **Tim Waller**, financial services lawyer **Michael Ruck**, and regulatory lawyer **Stuart Murray**. Waller focuses on payment services, fintech, and regulatory, and joins as a partner from 118 118 Money where he was the Chief Legal Officer. Ruck specialises in financial services criminal and regulatory investigations and joins the firm as a partner from Pinsent Masons where he was a senior associate. Murray joins the firm as a partner to launch its regulatory affairs

consultancy service, and he was previously Director of regulatory affairs at BT.

✦ **Travers Smith**

Derivatives and structured products lawyer **Sebastian Reger** joins Travers Smith from boutique firm Sacker & Partners where he focused on the pensions sector.

✦ **Vinson & Elkins**

Vinson & Elkins has recruited two partners in this round-up: **Noel Hughes** and **Lucy Jenkins**. Hughes has joined as a capital markets partner from Sidley Austin; his practice focuses on international capital markets and cross-border leveraged finance transactions. Jenkins worked as counsel at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett, where she acquired a breadth of experience in cross-border financing and debt restructuring.

✦ **Watson Farley & Williams**

Watson Farley & Williams has strengthened its Aviation Finance practice with the hire of Bird & Bird lawyer **Jim Bell**. Bell has significant experience in advising financiers, lessors, and operators on all aspects of asset finance and leasing.

✦ **Wedlake Bell**

Private client lawyer **Matthew Braithwaite** has joined Wedlake Bell from Bircham Dyson Bell. He specialises in tax and estate planning work for domestic and international high-net-worth clients.

✦ **White & Case**

White & Case has expanded its London offering with a slew of new partner hires: Herbert Smith Freehills infrastructure partner **Simon Caridia**, Kirkland & Ellis capital markets partner **Gilles Teerlinck**, RBS head of litigation and investigations **Laura Durrant**, JPMorgan Chase

Executive Director and assistant general counsel **Julia Smithers Excell**, Weil Gotshal & Manges counsel **Thomas Falkus**, and Baker McKenzie senior real estate finance associate **Sudhir Nair**. Caridia advises on both greenfield and brownfield transactions, focusing on debt financings for infrastructure M&A and private equity. Teerlinck advises issuers, sponsors, and underwriters on securities transactions, particularly high-yield debt. Durrant joins the firm's commercial litigation practice where she will focus on contentious, regulatory, and financial crime issues. Smithers Excell joins the firm's Banking group where she will specialise in financial regulatory matters including MiFID II compliance, derivatives clearing payments, and consumer credit. Falkus focuses on advising on CLOs and securitisation deals, and Nair advises lenders and borrowers on real estate financings, including distressed investments and restructurings.

✦ **Wiggin**

Wiggin has announced the hire of **Ceri Stoner** as a partner in its Corporate Tax team. She joins from Mishcon de Reya, where she was an associate, and her practice focuses on advising in relation to mergers and acquisitions, private equity, and financing transactions.

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

◆ The Specialist Partner Team



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At Edwards Gibson the specialist partner team provides:

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