

Alumni@Dentons

Fall-Winter 2021

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In Memoriam

We are pleased to share this issue of Alumni@Dentons with our extended Dentons family in the US Region.

Drop us a line at alumni@dentons.com and let us know what you liked about this edition and what you would like to see in the future. Also, keep us posted on what you have been up to and we will be happy to share it in our next issue.

Editor's Note

The process of selecting material for this issue was challenging, as we have far more to convey than space allows. Throughout the pandemic we have continued to significantly grow our pool of talented lawyers and business services professionals, adding over 300 people across the US in 2021—providing exceptional talent to our clients and our communities. We have also continued to deliver highly impactful service to our clients, just as each of you did during your time at the Firm. In this edition, we welcome some recent additions to the Firm and share some recent engagements.

With the COVID-19 pandemic dramatically altering the legal landscape, the need for our lawyers to continue learning and diversifying their skill set has never been greater. They have responded to the 'new dynamic' with grace and resilience and our Firm has continued to grow and prosper.

The great work being done across the US Region reinforces the four pillars of our strategy: talent, culture, platform and brand. The following pages are replete with examples—from newsmaking hires to outstanding outcomes; from launching what is already recognized as a leading ESG practice to celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month with *Billboard's* VP of Latin Music; from combining with firms in Bolivia, Ecuador, Mozambique and Vietnam to forging ahead with our Golden Spike strategy here at home.

Even during these trying times, we have a lot to be thankful for. Our best wishes to you and your family as we head into the holiday season and a great New Year in 2022.

Highlights

ESG: Advising on considerations, strategies and best practices

No matter the culture or country, senior executives are dealing with more complex environmental, social and governance issues than ever before. Recognizing the importance of ESG issues in every event in the lifecycle of a company has been a focal point of Dentons since the firm was founded. Our goal of “having a positive impact on the places where we live and work” has created a culture that supports the development of one of the world’s leading ESG practices. And in today’s business environment, when almost all companies have global connectivity, whether because of the location of its employees, customers or suppliers, our global footprint makes us uniquely situated to help.

Dentons is one of the first firms to develop a truly multidisciplinary, holistic and global ESG offering. Our approach to ESG is both sector- and business-focused. We understand the nuances and unique qualities each business must bring to its ESG strategy, depending on its industry profile, size and operating locations. Led by a regionally diverse Global ESG Steering Group to ensure that our people are qualified to assist clients across the globe with an array of services and capabilities, our team is prepared to support businesses of all types and in all phases of their ESG journey.

Developing an ESG strategy for a client requires careful attention, given the lack of standardization for measurement and disclosure of ESG goals, and because every client’s ESG story is different. And identifying, measuring and communicating a company’s ESG strategy has legal ramifications if its ESG-related disclosures are inaccurate or believed to be inaccurate.

ESG Standards & Frameworks Guide

This guide takes an in-depth look at the standards, guidelines and frameworks you could consider implementing when it comes to ESG. Anticipating what aspects of the various schemes are likely to become law, and preparing for the upcoming compliance environment, is critical.

ESG Hub

Our hub allows you to explore what you need to know about ESG, globally, providing you with the practical guidance and tools to really have an impact on your organization’s future success. Our ESG Hub continues to evolve and now includes “five key questions boards need to be able to answer,” how to put a robust ESG strategy in place, and market-to-market reviews of some of the key ESG areas, such as climate, workplace wellness and equality, resource efficiency and governance, among others. It also contains an archive of ESG webinars.



Launching combinations in Ecuador, Bolivia, Mozambique and Vietnam

Advancing our strategy to be the first pan-Latin American and Caribbean law firm, Dentons has launched combinations with leading law firms in Ecuador (Paz Horowitz Abogados), Bolivia (Guevara & Gutierrez), Mozambique (Fernanda Lopes & Associados-Advogados) and the Vietnamese law firm LuatViet.

Dentons Paz Horowitz has offices in Quito and Guayaquil and expertise in intellectual property, anti-corruption investigations and compliance, corporate and M&A, mining, energy and aviation that is unrivaled in Ecuador. With the combination, Dentons has become the only global law firm capable of offering international clients full-service legal counsel and business solutions in that country, including in the key areas of investment, project development, corporate and financial services.

Dentons Guevara & Gutierrez has been serving clients with legal needs in Bolivia since 1989. With offices in La Paz and Santa Cruz, the firm's practice areas are ranked highly in *Chambers Latin America* 2020, including Band 1 rankings in Dispute Resolution and Energy & Natural Resources and Band 2 rankings in Banking & Finance, Corporate/Commercial Labor & Employment and Tax. With this combination, Dentons has become the only global law firm capable of offering clients full-service legal counsel and business solutions in Bolivia.

Dentons' combination with Mozambique firm **FL&A-Advogados** in Maputo builds upon our strategy to become the leading Pan-African law firm owned and controlled by Africans and located in key markets, strengthens our presence across Africa.

Lastly, our announced combination with **LuatViet** will give us a presence in the key locations of Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi. This proposed combination is a critical milestone as Dentons continues to build its presence across ASEAN by combining with a highly-esteemed firm with whom it has a longstanding relationship.

Dentons Global Advisors acquires Interel

Dentons Global Advisors (DGA), an elite multidisciplinary advisory firm, has acquired Interel, an award-winning pan-European public affairs consultancy. It will be called Dentons Global Advisors Interel and operate out of our Berlin, Brussels, London and Paris offices. The addition of Interel extends DGA's footprint in Europe and strengthens DGA's public affairs capabilities and pool of expertise, alongside founding member Albright Stonebridge Group and seasoned advisory industry leader Ed Reilly, DGA's CEO.

Launched earlier this year, DGA provides clients with services adjacent to the practice of law, including strategic advisory; commercial diplomacy; capital markets advisory; transaction advisory; crisis, disputes and issues management; corporate positioning; public affairs; and business and geopolitical risk advisory. With the addition of Interel, DGA now has more than 225 professionals across nine offices in seven countries, with further coverage through an extensive senior advisory network and Dentons' more than 200 locations around the world.

Welcoming 53 entry-level associates...

In October, Dentons welcomed 53 entry-level associates across our US Region. This year's class is 49 percent women and 40 percent diverse and includes individuals from 34 law schools. They will be distributed across 17 Dentons offices, including New York (13), Pittsburgh (5), Atlanta (4), Washington, DC (4), Birmingham (3), Denver (3), Honolulu (3), Indianapolis (3), Louisville, KY (3), Chicago (2), Des Moines (2), Los Angeles (2), San Francisco Bay Area (2), St. Louis (2), Kansas City (1) and Naples, FL (1).

Our new entry-level associates joined 14 practices, including Capital Markets, Corporate, Employee Benefits, Employment and Labor, Economic Development, Estate Planning, Government Contracts, Health Care, Immigration, Intellectual Property and Technology, Litigation, Native American Law, Real Estate, and Venture Technology.

To help our new associates develop a productive, lasting relationship with the Firm, their training and integration kicked off with Dentons Jumpstart, a virtual orientation prepared by our Professional Development team. Weekly sessions featured professional development, pro bono work, diversity and inclusion, timekeeping, legal ethics, writing skills and business development, as well as breakout sessions among each of the US Region's member firms.

This year's class has had a very unique experience—navigating classes, clerkships and summer associate programs in a virtual world. For many, their first time in a Dentons office as a lawyer is their first time in a Dentons office *at all*. Accordingly, our Legal Recruitment, Professional Development and Administration teams have been working hard to help this group navigate the new dynamic.

Join us in wishing them the best of luck as they begin their legal careers with Dentons.

...while also growing talent through lateral hires

As the pandemic cools down, the legal market continues to pick up and our teams are getting increasingly busy in terms of workflow, 2021's bumper crop of lateral hires at all levels, from junior associates on up, has been key to our ability to meet the hike in demand.

So far this year, we have welcomed 18 lateral partners, counsels or principals, including 6 in our Venture Technology and Emerging Growth Companies (VTG) practice and 3 each in our Public Policy and Corporate groups. We also added 49 laterals to our associate ranks, including 18 in Commercial Litigation, 7 in Real Estate, 5 in Capital Markets and 4 in Venture Technology.

In fact, the rapid growth of our VTG group is owed, in large part, to our aggressive lateral-hiring approach. The US practice achieved 97% revenue growth in 2021

to date and is betting on continuation of that upward trajectory as companies whose matters have increasingly global implications discover Dentons' 500-lawyer global VTG practice. Year-to-date, the group's additions at the partner/counsel levels include **Allison Bender, Andrew Bates, Angela Bernardi, Joseph Guagliardo, Nick Janda, John Oberdorf, Nicole Ostrowski** and **Amit Singh**. While these hires have all been in California and New York, the practice has also benefited from the addition of shareholders **David R. Rudd** and **Travis Marc Wilson** on Salt Lake City's Corporate team, which is addressing the growing base of software-as-a-service companies in the region) and lateral counsel **Dave Valenti** on Pittsburgh's VTG team, which serves artificial intelligence and robotics clients.

Welcome to Dentons

New Lateral Partners/Shareholders



Allison Bender joined the Washington, DC, office as a partner in the Venture Technology and Emerging Growth Companies practice. Her practice focuses on helping clients strategically manage privacy and cybersecurity risk—before, during, and after a data breach. Allison served as of counsel in the DC office of Wilson Sonsini, and was previously counsel at technology boutique ZwillGen and a senior associate at Hogan Lovells. Before entering private practice, she spent nearly a decade at the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS), most recently serving as a senior cybersecurity attorney in the Office of the General Counsel.



Angela Bernardi, a tech M&A star from Wilson Sonsini, joined the Silicon Valley office of the Venture Technology and Emerging Companies group. She advises on everything from corporate governance to sale of one's business to a strategic or private equity buyer. She recently worked on the sales of DisplayLink Corp. to Synaptics Inc, Mevo Inc. to Logitech International SA, and Anchor Semiconductor Inc. to KLA Corp.



Sam Cullari, an experienced federal regulatory professional, joined the Firm as a partner resident in the Washington, DC, office. He practices at the intersection of technology, privacy and data security and regularly advises application service providers, software companies, financial service providers, manufacturers, retailers and utility companies. Beyond federal compliance, Sam advises on the California Consumer Privacy Act and the EU's General Data Protection Regulation. Before joining Dentons, he was a partner at Reed Smith and, before that, he was deputy general counsel at Comcast, where he led the development and implementation of its national compliance project to address the FCC's consumer privacy rules.



Joseph Guagliardo joined the New York office as partner in the Venture Technology and Emerging Growth Companies practice. He advises companies on technology transactions and provides general counseling concerning technology and IP development and commercialization, financing, regulatory and other cross-disciplinary legal matters. Prior to practicing law, Joe spent more than a decade working for a venture-backed financial software company where he held executive-level positions overseeing software design and implementation for financial institution clients around the world.



David Kornblau, securities regulatory enforcement lawyer, joined the New York office as a partner. Ranked by Chambers USA as one of the nation's leading practitioners in securities enforcement, David spent 10 years at the SEC as chief litigation counsel, and as trial counsel in the Enforcement Division during the Enron Era, a period of large-scale corporate investigations and heightened enforcement activity.



Robert McMonagle, US Marine veteran and litigation lawyer, joined Dentons as a shareholder. Bob has more than 25 years of experience representing clients in coverage disputes, breach of contract cases, professional malpractice suits, Jones Act matters, employment claims and wrongful death suits. He is resident in our Des Moines office.



David Rudd joined Dentons as a shareholder in the Corporate practice. Located in the Salt Lake City office, he brings decades of experience in mergers and acquisitions, leveraged buyouts, corporate restructurings and recapitalizations, corporate and private equity financings, and general business and corporate matters. A trusted advisor on both domestic and cross-border transactions, David has guided clients in the manufacturing, technology, healthcare, food, cosmetics, construction, hospitality and sports industries, among others.



Travis Marc Wilson joined Dentons as a shareholder in the Corporate practice. He is located in the Salt Lake City office. Travis has served as a trusted advisor to entrepreneurs, investors and mature companies in a variety of industries, including artificial intelligence, health technology, e-commerce, blockchain, telecommunications and consumer products. He is able to anticipate the next stage for his clients and help them manage exposure, comply with regulations and grow or transfer any idea or business.



Alumni Spotlight



Kelly Fair

US General Counsel
Canopy Growth Corporation

Prior to joining Canopy Growth in 2019, Kelly Fair spent more than six years at Dentons, helping to form the Firm's US Cannabis Group and serving as a co-chair. During her time at Dentons, Kelly was promoted to partner in the Litigation group. Kelly is the US General Counsel and Vice President of US & European Affairs for Canopy Growth Corporation, the world's leading cannabis company. Her role includes advocating for practical consumer-centric cannabis laws at both the state and federal levels.

Can you tell us about Canopy and what led you to work there?

Canopy Growth is a Canadian-based global cannabis company with core markets in Canada, Germany and the United States. In the U.S. we are currently focused on developing our federally-permissible CPG and CBD businesses, bringing products from brands like Martha Stewart CBD and BioSteel to American consumers. The passage of the 2018 Farm Bill allowed Canopy to not only participate in a frontier industry like CBD, but also join and influence the movement to end federal cannabis prohibition in this country—a topic I'm passionate about for both personal and professional reasons.

In 2013, while I was working as an attorney at Dentons, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. I reached a moment in my own treatment process where I opted to cease using prescribed opioids for pain management in favor of exploring cannabis options. Even in a liberal, medically-legal market like San Francisco, at that time, my access and ability to discuss cannabis without stigma was limited. That experience was the tipping point—it highlighted the impracticality of America's cannabis laws and gave me great empathy for patients in states with no cannabis access or options beyond opioids or the illicit market. When I returned from medical leave, I approached Dentons with a business

case to launch, and ultimately led, a US Cannabis Group [I did not know this but good idea to check with Katie Ashton how to frame the intro. We can leave her words alone :). This was at a time when most firms were refusing to provide needed legal services to responsible cannabis operators, so it was exciting to be at the forefront.

What fuels your continuing interest?

As a consumer, I really enjoy THC-infused beverages and look forward to the day when they will be more readily available. As an attorney, I view inequitable cannabis regulation in juxtaposition with our government's tolerance for alcoholic beverages and tobacco, which fuels my fire to push for change. And as a businesswoman, I recognize what a huge miss cannabis prohibition is for the U.S. economy—especially now when the need for job creation, income generation, and tax revenue is increasingly urgent.

What do you enjoy most about your current position?

I always wanted to combine life purpose and passion with my work, which my currently position allows me to do every day. While we cannot legally operate within the THC market in the US, Canopy expends more resources on advocacy to end federal cannabis prohibition and fuel social justice than most MSOs. This provides me, as the US General Counsel, the privilege of being at the forefront of the cannabis movement and unfettered access to affect positive change.

What are your goals as an advocate? What obstacles have you faced?

For the past three years, I have advocated for a federal legislative solution to amend the Food Drug & Cosmetics Act to permit hemp-derived CBD in dietary

supplements, which would provide consumers national access to regulated CBD wellness products. We hope to see momentum on H.R. 841 this fall to make this goal a reality. I am very proud to say that with the passage of AB45, we have successfully opened California for the sale of regulated hemp-derived CBD ingestible products. In the short term, we anticipate bipartisan pieces of federal legislation to remove cannabis from the Controlled Substances Act, address statistical inequities and injustice caused by cannabis prohibition, and provide a regulatory framework for federal regulation of cannabis.

As with most substantive policy changes, there are political obstacles. However, national polling on cannabis issues demonstrates that an overwhelming majority of constituents from both Republican and Democratic controlled states support legalization and regulation of cannabis at some level. Now is the time for our leadership to accelerate efforts to introduce and pass a law that opens a regulated interstate cannabis market and addresses the wrongs of current outdated and flawed federal cannabis laws.

Did you have a mentor during your time at Dentons?

I was/am lucky to have found two long-time mentors, sponsors and at times guardian angels in Laura Geist, Partner, Litigation, and Katie Ashton, Partner, Healthcare. Both have been unwavering in their support and sponsorship of me as a lawyer, cancer survivor, mother, and entrepreneur. Laura and Katie showed me by example that it is possible to have passion for your business, surround yourself with powerful women, and find success by daring to break the mold and be authentic in “big law,” which has a reputation as a male-dominated and traditional industry. I will be forever inspired by and grateful to both of them.

Do you have any favorite memories of your time at Dentons?

My favorite memory of my time at Dentons was second-chairing a trial in Los Angeles Superior Court with Laura Geist the year I made Partner. The rush of being on my feet battling against worthy opponents all day, living in a war room at night, and ultimately winning will be hard to outdo. Maybe ending cannabis prohibition?

Are there any aspects of working in a law firm that you miss?

While my time at Canopy has provided me three years of invaluable exposure to corporate executives and directors, and every business function across Canopy’s organization, I do miss the constant collaboration and company of legal professionals within a firm. I took for granted being able to walk the halls of Dentons SF/Oakland offices draw from such a deep bench of talent to solve the impossible problems of our clients.

What are some of the most important skills lawyers must develop to succeed?

Active listening and gaining a deep understanding of your clients’ business and industry. Coming from big law, being trained and polished in analytical thinking, research, writing, and advocacy is table-stakes. But to be a truly effective strategist, problem solver, and leader, it is critical to gain a 360 view of your stakeholders’ needs and agendas, and how legal recommendations might impact specific business functions and the business as a whole.

What are your passions?

Advocating for drug policy changes and being a mother to my 6-year-old daughter, Elle—both jobs that could change the world. I work hard to balance my energy and time to fully lean into both.

What do you do in your me time?

With no moments to spare most days, I find it critical to carve time for daily meditation, one of our Quatreau CBD beverages, and Barry’s Bootcamp.

Recent Client Successes

- **Advising on a bank acquisition:** Lawyers in the **Jasper, IN, Lexington, KY, and Louisville, KY,** offices served as legal counsel to a Jasper bank holding company on its announced deal to acquire a Shelbyville, IN, bank for about \$154 million. If consummated, the transaction will push our client into a top 10 market share position in the Louisville banking market.
 - **Advising on acquisition of industrial real estate portfolio:** Lawyers in **Chicago, Kansas City, MO, St. Louis, Los Angeles, San Diego, Washington, DC, New York, Atlanta and Naples, FL,** conducted due diligence for a Toronto-based real estate investor and asset manager in connection with its \$2.2 billion acquisition of an infill and light industrial portfolio that included 116 properties totaling 14.5 million square feet in 12 major industrial markets across the US. Our team worked to acquire all of the properties except for a few in Arizona and Maryland.
 - **Passing an environmental law:** A federal regulatory team in **Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco,** representing a trade organization, successfully advocated for passage of a California law setting standards for disposal of treated wood waste. The law allows preservative-treated wood waste to be disposed of in the composite-lined portion of an approved solid waste landfill.
 - **Advising on major donation to a university:** A team of lawyers in our **Birmingham** office advised a philanthropist in connection with a \$95 million gift to The University of Alabama at Birmingham, paving the way for renaming the institution's highly ranked School of Medicine after the client and also establishing new institutes for Biomedical Innovation and Global Health.
 - **Securing approval for solar farm:** A team from our **Indianapolis** office represented a client seeking to build an expansive solar farm in the state, securing approval for the project from the local governing authority. The project also received the benefit of a tax abatement granted by the County Council.
- After a group of remonstrators filed a petition for judicial review, alleging a host of errors and seeking to overturn the project's approval, we obtained a dismissal with prejudice.
- **Winning a patent infringement matter:** A team of lawyers in **Silicon Valley, San Francisco and Washington, DC,** won summary judgment in favor of an electric bike- and scooter-sharing platform in a case brought by the manufacturer of a mobile bike lock claiming a lock used by a bike-share business our client acquired from a transportation network company infringed on the plaintiff's patent. We convinced the court that the technologies were not equivalent.
 - **Winning a litigation for an online shopping site:** A team of lawyers in **Los Angeles, Kansas City, MO, and Dallas** won a significant victory for a Japanese e-commerce company that competes with eBay in a hard-fought litigation alleging false advertising and fraud. The case was brought by a handbag reseller who was terminated for violating the company's terms of service. After a hearing on our client's fully dispositive motions; successfully transferring the case from Florida state court to California federal court; and securing complete dismissal of plaintiff's original complaint, which included a Lanham Act claim, we obtained a confidential, favorable, full settlement of all claims and counterclaims.
 - **Obtaining a medical marijuana license:** A Cannabis team comprised of lawyers in our **San Francisco, Los Angeles, Chicago and Kansas City** offices, helped a Glennville, GA-based client secure a license to sell, grow and manufacture medical cannabis oil in Georgia. From a field of 69 applicants, our client was the top scorer and one of only two companies to win licenses to cultivate medical cannabis oil on 100,000 square feet of indoor growing space. Four companies will be licensed for smaller, 50,000-square-foot operations.

- **Forming a joint venture:** A team of lawyers from our **New York, Washington, DC, and Chicago** offices assisted the nation's largest independent brokerage (and a leading real estate technology company) in expanding into mortgage origination services through a partnership with a leading retail mortgage company (and the No. 1 non-bank lender for our client's agents) to form a new mortgage origination company.
- **Settling a wage-and-hour class action:** Employment and Labor partners in **San Francisco, Oakland and Pittsburgh** teamed up to obtain a successful settlement of a wage-and-hour class action against North America's largest glass producer. The case was filed in California state court and removed to federal court. The mediated settlement was for a fraction of the estimated damages exposure.

Pro Bono

Filing two amicus briefs in landmark abortion case

Chicago partner **Leah Bruno** and senior managing associate **Jacqui Giannini** and New York senior managing associate **Geoffrey Miller** together filed an amicus brief in *Dobbs v. Jackson WHO*, the case addressing a recently passed Mississippi abortion statute in which the Supreme Court has been asked to reconsider *Roe v. Wade*. The brief provides the court with the research and data of 106 social science experts to support the petitioner's position that eliminating access to abortion has long-term negative socioeconomic consequences for women. Chicago associate **Nicole Bieganski** and pro bono partner **Ben Weinberg** provided additional assistance.

Also in *Dobbs*, Washington, DC, partner **Simon Steel** and senior managing associate **Lauren Wilson**, and Kansas City counsel **Stephen McAllister** filed an amicus brief that surveys the laws of the European Convention on Human Rights and the 47 member states of the Council of Europe and concludes that they are more consistent with *Roe* than with the Mississippi law at issue. Washington, DC, associates **Victoria Brown** and **Elissa Jeffers**, provided valuable assistance.

Securing grandparent visitation rights

A Kansas City team led by partners **Jacqueline Whipple** and **Jason Scheiderer** and managing associate **Cody Wood** won comprehensive relief for a Missouri grandmother on her petition to visit her grandchildren after not being allowed to see them for more than two years. The final order granted the client in-person visitation, family dinners, weekly calls, and family counseling aimed at repairing the family relationship.

Winning asylum for individuals fleeing persecution

Washington, DC, managing associate **Adriana Vélez-León**, associate **Maurisa Bell** and senior counsel **Randy Bregman**, working closely with Human Rights First, secured asylum in the US for a family from Honduras. As a result of their efforts, the family can remain in the US and eventually become citizens. In a separate matter, Chicago associate **Julius Carter**, supported by Chicago partner **Natalie Spears** and New York senior managing associate **Geoffrey Miller**, worked with the National Immigration Justice Center to secure asylum for a young gay man who fled his home in Russia after suffering extreme physical and emotional abuse on account of his sexual orientation.

Victory in a housing litigation

Los Angeles counsel **Sylvia Chiu** and associates **Emma Moralyan** and **Connor Scott** negotiated a settlement for a client who was forced to vacate an unpermitted housing unit at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. Connor led the depositions of the defendants and elicited damaging testimony against them. With the help of Orange County managing associate **Anne Waddell**, the team's motion to have requests for admission deemed admitted was granted in its entirety. A tentative ruling granting terminating sanctions against all defendants further contributed to the matter's favorable resolution.

Teaming up with CARE Enterprises to boost gender equality

Dentons is providing pro bono legal counsel to CARE Enterprises, a subsidiary of the international NGO CARE USA, in its scaling of the CARE-SheTrades Impact Fund, a \$75 million gender-justice fund launched in 2019 to deploy capital to growth-stage companies in South and Southeast Asia that are creating gender-justice for their women employees, consumers and suppliers. The effort is being led in the US by Dentons US chairman **Jeff Haidet** and partner **Wendell Faria** and in Europe by partner **Jean Luc Fisch** and counsel **Bruno Hrovat**.



Weinberg celebrated for pro bono leadership: The Greater Chicago Legal Clinic honored the Firm and Chicago Pro Bono partner **Ben Weinberg** with its Be a Light for Justice Award. The award recognizes our efforts throughout the US, including helping survivors of domestic violence to access justice; representing asylum seekers and DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) applicants; and working for racial justice and LGBTQ+ rights, including representing survivors of hate crimes.



Bregman honored for a career upholding human rights: Human Rights First selected Washington, DC, senior counsel **Randy Bregman** to receive its inaugural Global Accountability Guardian Award. Randy was selected for his career-long commitment to fighting corruption and human rights abuses, including representing pro bono individuals seeking asylum; helping HRF develop its human rights sanctions program; strengthening the relationship between Dentons and HRF; and making human rights a central pillar of Dentons' ESG Global Solutions program.



Richmond lauded for fighting human trafficking: Rescue: Freedom bestowed on Washington, DC, partner **John Cotton Richmond** the Wilberforce Award for Exceptional Leadership in the Fight Against Human Trafficking. The sole recipient of this year's award, John was recognized for his career-long commitment to combatting human trafficking, including in private practice, as a prosecutor for the Justice Department, as co-founder and director of the Human Trafficking Institute, and as head of the State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons.



Hynes named a 'Notable Nonprofit Board Leader': Senior counsel Mary Ann Hynes has been selected to *Crain's Chicago Business*' Notable Nonprofit Board Leaders for 2021. A founding board member of Girls Inc. of Chicago, Mary was chosen for her efforts to advance its mission and raise its profile in the community by leveraging her skills, capabilities and network to connect the organization with those that have provided financial and volunteer support.



Nolen honored by Alabama Law Foundation: Shareholder **Rodney Nolen** was selected as a 2020 Fellow of the Alabama Law Foundation for his outstanding dedication to his profession and community. The organization makes annual grants to organizations that provide free legal aid to the poor in civil cases, for projects that improve the administration of justice and for law-related education.



Shunnara named Outstanding Professional Advisor: The Alabama Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals has selected Birmingham shareholder **Tanya Shunnara** as this year's Outstanding Professional Advisor for National Philanthropy Day. Tanya was nominated for the award by the Alabama Association of Charitable Gift Planners.

Kudos

- **COVID-19 Hub wins legal innovation award:** Dentons' COVID-19 Hub took the top prize in the Knowledge Management category at *Legal Week's* 2021 Legal Innovation Awards. The Hub was launched in March 2020 to help our clients, in the US and elsewhere, navigate the unprecedented challenges brought about by the global pandemic. First to market with this resource, we leveraged our unmatched scale to deliver insight on a range of business issues across 50 US jurisdictions—a solution “ambitious in scope and scale,” according to one of the judges.
- **'Highly recommended' by top decision makers:** Dentons was one of 21 firms that are “highly recommended” by top legal decision makers, according to BTI Consulting. Clients cited our “superior client service, demonstrating a culture driven by client focus and understanding clients' business.”
- **Lauded for litigation prowess:** BTI Consulting named Dentons one of 12 “Awesome Opponents” in the latest roundup of the Firms Most Feared in Litigation. The list highlights the most “formidable” opposing counsel top legal decision-makers say they would rather not litigate against.
- **Garnering top award for mid-market restructuring:** Dentons was named Mid-Market Restructuring Firm of the Year at the 2021 Turnaround Atlas Awards. The award recognized our work throughout 2020, including our representations of Verity Health Systems of California and RSG Group, which were also individually honored in the Special Situations M&A Deal and Cross-Border Special Situation M&A Deal categories, respectively.
- **Recognized in Best Lawyers in America:** A total of 676 Dentons lawyers were recognized in the 2022 edition of *Best Lawyers in America*, including 7 for the first time, 42 who were named “Lawyer of the Year” in their practice area and 148 who were on its “Ones to Watch” list.
- **IP practice wins accolades:** Dentons received 18 individual lawyer and 11 firm recommendations in the 2021 edition of *IAM Patent 1000: The World's Leading Patent Professionals*. In addition, 30 of our lawyers from across 15 jurisdictions were listed in *Managing IP's* 2021 list of IP Stars.

Individual Honorees



Hill recognized for success in white collar defense: *Missouri Lawyers Media* named Kansas City White Collar and Government Investigations partner **Stephen Hill** to its 2021 POWER List of lawyers who lead and influence various parts of the Missouri legal community.



Jordan and Krigsten lauded as local leaders: The *St. Louis Business Journal* named St. Louis managing partner **Karen Jordan** (top) one of the “Most Influential Business Women” of 2021. The honor recognizes the accomplishments of leaders who have made an impact on the industries in which they work and the local nonprofits and communities they represent. Kansas City office managing partner **Lisa Krigsten** was named to *Ingram’s* magazine’s annual list of the most influential business leaders in Greater Kansas City, the Ingram’s 250.



Thorup inducted as a fellow of the American College of Tax Counsel: Salt Lake City shareholder **Gary Thorup** has been inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Tax Counsel, a professional association of tax attorneys that limits membership to a maximum of 700 tax attorneys across the US. Gary was also named Tax Practitioner of the Year by the Utah State Bar.



Hutchins named to Top Birmingham Women list: The *Birmingham Business Journal* named Birmingham shareholder **Elizabeth Hutchins**, co-chair of our Trusts, Estates and Wealth Preservation group, as one of the “Top Birmingham Women for 2021” in recognition of her outstanding professional achievements, community involvement and commitment to the empowerment of women and girls.



Ing honored for lifetime achievement: The National Asian Pacific American Bar Association honored Honolulu Employment and Labor partner **Louise Ing** with its Daniel K. Inouye Trailblazer Award, NAPABA’s lifetime achievement award and highest honor, in recognition of the help she has provided clients and her service on the boards of nonprofits, companies and bar organizations.



Moskowitz named MVP of the Year: *Law360* named Chicago litigation partner **Keith Moskowitz** a 2021 MVP of the Year in the Insurance category. The honor recognizes lawyers who succeeded in a high-stakes litigation, complex global matter or record-breaking deal. Keith was one of a handful chosen from a pool of hundreds of nominees.



Bice and Dickey recognized by *Indiana Lawyer*: Managing partner **Keith Bice** (top) and associate **Katie Dickey** have been selected to receive *Indiana Lawyer's* Leadership in Law awards. Bice has been named a Distinguished Barrister and Dickey has been named an Up and Coming Lawyer.



Moyron recognized as Rising Star: The Minority Corporate Counsel Association selected Los Angeles partner **Tania Moyron** as one of its 2021 Rising Stars, an annual list honoring lawyers for their accomplishments and dedication to the legal profession and their community.



Zobrist honored as an ICON: Kansas City partner **Karl Zobrist** received a 2021 ICON Award from Missouri Lawyers Media. The honor recognizes his career of energy industry and community accomplishments that have touched on some of today's most urgent issues, including renewable energy, electricity infrastructure, police reform and equity for the disadvantaged.



Carr and Wenger recognized as Up & Comers: Missouri Lawyers Media selected Kansas City partner **Wade Carr** (top) and senior managing associate **Sam Wenger** for its 2021 Up & Coming Awards, an accolade that recognizes young lawyers for their "outstanding contributions" and positive impact on the practice of law in the state.



Ziyaeva invited to join CFR program: New York International Dispute Resolution counsel **Diora Ziyaeva** was selected to join the Council on Foreign Relations' Stephen M. Kellen Term Member Program. The program offers young leaders a chance to interact with seasoned foreign policy experts and participate in a wide variety of events designed especially for them.



Vince appointed to board of energy advocacy org: Washington, DC, Energy partner **Clint Vince** was named general counsel of the GridWise Alliance Grid Infrastructure Advisory Council's board of directors. GIAC was formed to advocate for at least \$50 billion in federal spending to modernize the nation's electric power transmission and distribution systems.



Maizel named top healthcare lawyer: Partner Samuel Maizel has been selected as a Top Healthcare Lawyer in California by the *Daily Journal*. Resident in the Los Angeles office, Maizel leads the Firm's financially distressed healthcare industry practice nationwide.

Diversity and Inclusion

Dentons achieves Mansfield Rule Certification and Certification Plus

Dentons is proud to have achieved Diversity Lab's Mansfield Rule 4.0 Certification for the fourth year in a row. The program attests that women, people of color, LGBTQ+ people and people with disabilities made up at least 30 percent of our candidate pool for:

- Leadership and governance roles
- Equity partner promotions
- Participation in formal client pitch opportunities
- Senior lateral positions

In addition, the Firm achieved Mansfield Certified Plus status for the third straight year, having demonstrated that diverse lawyers comprise at least 30 percent of our leadership and committee memberships. We also announced that we're participating in the Mansfield 5.0 Certification process, which runs from July 2021 to July 2022.

Greeting an overseas colleague

On a visit to Honolulu, Seoul partner **Nicholas Park** (center) joins Honolulu partners **Louise Ing** and **John Rhee** at a "pau hana" (end-of-work gathering) hosted by the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association's Hawaii chapter.



Kicking off our Allyship Initiative



Dentons launched its Allyship Initiative with a Zoom program keynoted by **Caroline Flanagan**, a former lawyer and an expert on imposter syndrome, who offered advice on how we can all become better, more effective allies, no matter our roles or backgrounds. Also delivering remarks were US Managing Partner **Mary Wilson**, Board Chair **Keith Moskowitz**, Board Vice Chairs **John Holahan** and **Sonia Martin**, and Head of Diversity and Inclusion **Ada Ejikeme**.

At training sessions for leaders of our Allyship Initiative Pods, leaders were asked, "What words do you associate with being an ally?" Their responses were captured in the word cloud below.



Hispanic Heritage Month

Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs annually from September 15 to October 15, recognizes the histories, cultures and contributions of Americans of Spanish, Mexican, Caribbean, Central American and South American ancestry. Once again, we celebrated the month with a US Region event hosted by our affinity group Hispanic/Latinx Organization for Leadership and Advancement (HOLA).



HOLA presentation features Billboard's VP of Latin music



Our HOLA affinity group invited **Leila Cobo**, Billboard's VP of Latin music, for a conversation about Latin musical culture and its impact on attitudes, opportunities and perception of Hispanic and Latinx communities. Cobo discussed her most recent book, *Decoding Despacito: An Oral History of Latin Music*, an analysis of Latin music since the 1970s, and, in conversation with HOLA cochairs **Kristen Rodriguez** and **Monica Thompson**, explored how individual trailblazers impact cultural communities overall and how the arts can be a mechanism to "open doors" for marginalized groups.

Dentons Delivers Swinging into action

Dentons lawyers "Swing into Action" at the [Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault](#) (UCASA)'s Top Golf fundraising event. The Firm was a proud sponsor of the event and continues to support the UCASA and its mission to engage individuals and organizations in local and statewide collaborations to strengthen the effectiveness of sexual violence education, prevention and response in Utah.



Celebrating First Responders



New York colleagues participated in a Stars of Hope event to commemorate the 20th anniversary of 9/11 and to honor first responders for their service at that time and today throughout the pandemic. The **New York Says Thank You Foundation**, a longtime client, and its Stars of Hope program placed the commemorative banners we helped create near hospitals and in several business locations throughout the city. Dentons is a proud supporter of the foundation and its mission. The care, compassion and community spirit it embodies are examples to us all as we navigate today's urgent challenges and crises, from the battle against COVID, to the pervasiveness of institutional racism, to the ever-worsening climate crisis, and much more.

Donating School Supplies

Phoenix colleagues collected school supplies for a back-to-school drive led by Boys Hope Girls Hope Arizona.



Leading a Back-to-School Fundraiser

For the fifth year in a row, Kansas City senior managing associate **Sam Wenger** co-chaired Lawyers Encouraging Academic Performance's (LEAP's) back-to-school event at Operation Breakthrough. Despite the additional obstacles posed by the pandemic, LEAP raised more than \$25,000 to provide school supplies and uniforms to approximately 750 children at Operation Breakthrough for the upcoming school year.



Attending a Women's Summit

Dentons lawyers attended the 2021 *Birmingham Business Journal Women's Summit*, celebrating the achievements of many top Birmingham women, including Dentons' **Elizabeth Hutchins**.



In Memoriam



It is with a very heavy heart that we advise of the premature passing of **Tracy Sorensen**, a senior managing associate in the New York office whose life was cut short by a sudden illness. A valued member of the Capital Markets group for more than nine years, Tracy was a friend to all that he met with a wonderful and kind spirit.

Tracy's practice covered all aspects of financing receivables and loan and securities financing (through securitizations, repurchase facilities and secured credit facilities) supported by residential and commercial real estate, as well as receivables. He also advised on servicing advance facilities and the acquisition, disposition and financing of mortgage servicing rights and associated platforms; represented issuers, loan sellers and underwriters/initial purchasers in public and private securities offerings (with a primary focus on those backed by residential real estate or commercial real estate; and represented borrowers in structuring, documenting and administering various forms of complex debt and equity financing; and represented US companies on periodic reporting and other disclosure obligations under the US securities laws.

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