

## Revolving Door Roundup: BigLaw Snaps Up Trump US Attys

By Jack Queen

*Law360 (April 30, 2021, 1:49 PM EDT)* -- Top Trump-appointed prosecutors continue to land in private practice at firms including Steptoe & Johnson PLLC, Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP and Kobre & Kim LLP, as the presidential transition keeps the revolving door spinning at the U.S. Department of Justice.

Here's a look at some of the latest moves.

### Michael Sherwin

Michael Sherwin, who spearheaded the Justice Department's investigation into the Jan. 6 Capitol riot as acting U.S. Attorney for the District of Columbia, has joined Kobre & Kim LLP as a white collar defense attorney. He will counsel corporate clients as well as individuals with high net worth, the firm said.

Sherwin, a former military intelligence officer and Justice Department lawyer since 2008, left government in March after nearly a year as D.C.'s top prosecutor. During Sherwin's tenure, his office indicted more than two dozen North Korean bankers and others for allegedly running "covert branches" of a state-owned bank and laundering \$2.5 billion. In December, Sherwin's office also announced new charges against a former Libyan intelligence operative for his role in the 1988 Lockerbie bombing.

Sherwin was thrust into the national spotlight while steering the early stages of the Capitol riot investigation, charging about 400 people for their alleged roles in the insurrection over 10 weeks. In testimony before lawmakers, Sherwin described the scope of the criminal conduct as "unmatched" by anything the DOJ or FBI had seen before.

At Kobre & Kim, Sherwin will defend corruption, securities and tax fraud, and sanctions cases, the firm said. Sherwin will also help launch a new office in the United Arab Emirates, which Kobre & Kim says will reap the benefits of increased financial industry activity in the Persian Gulf region. Sherwin recently told Law360 that the modernization of the "antiquated" finance industry in those nations could lead to a bumper crop of fraud investigations.

### Robert Hur

Gibson Dunn scooped up former Maryland U.S. Attorney Robert Hur, a Trump appointee who stepped down in February as part of the customary transition of top federal prosecutors under new presidential administrations. Hur will focus on white collar defense and investigations as a partner.

Hur, a onetime King & Spalding LLP partner and Maryland federal prosecutor from 2007 to 2014, was tapped as U.S. attorney in 2018 after several years as a principal associate deputy attorney general at Main Justice. He previously worked for former criminal division chief Christopher Wray from 2003 to 2005, handling counterterrorism, corporate fraud and appellate matters.

During his tenure as U.S. attorney, Hur prosecuted former Baltimore Mayor Catherine Elizabeth Pugh, who was hit with fraud charges in 2019 stemming from an alleged scheme to use her "Healthy Holly" children's books to defraud consumers, Baltimore schools and taxpayers. Pugh pled guilty to four conspiracy and tax evasion counts and was sentenced to three years in prison in February 2020.

### **Tim Garrison**

Tim Garrison, the former U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, has landed at Husch Blackwell LLP as a partner in the firm's white collar, internal investigations and compliance practice groups. Garrison's former counterpart in Missouri's eastern district, Jeff Jensen, joined Husch Blackwell in January.

Garrison's tenure as U.S. attorney, which ran from early 2018 to February this year, was marked by an emphasis on violent crime and drug trafficking. He has led dozens of complex multi-agency investigations and served as chair of a seven-state drug task force, according to his bio.

Garrison is also a lieutenant colonel in the Marine Corps, where he once served as a military prosecutor. He has continued serving in Marine Corps Reserve since leaving active duty in 2007, and in 2014 he deployed to Afghanistan to do legal work for coalition forces.

Husch Blackwell said in an announcement that Garrison will boost the firm's government investigations and compliance practices while also bringing extensive national security experience from previous roles at the U.S. Department of Defense.

### **William J. Powell**

William J. Powell has joined Steptoe & Johnson PLLC as a business litigator after three years prosecuting drug conspiracies, national security matters and major fraud cases as U.S. attorney for the Northern District of West Virginia.

One highlight of Powell's tenure came in February 2019, when his office and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notched a \$3.15 million settlement with Antero Resources Corp., which was accused of discharging material into West Virginia waterways without proper permits.

Powell is a former prosecutor in Jefferson County, West Virginia, part of the Washington, D.C., metro area, where he worked on violent crime and major fraud cases in the felony division. He also served as a federal prosecutor in the Southern District of West Virginia. Prior to entering public service, Powell led Jackson Kelly PLLC's white collar practice group.

### **David J. Shaw**

Morrison & Foerster nabbed a former top deputy at the Justice Department's antitrust division, the fourth high-ranking DOJ official to join the firm since January.

David J. Shaw, former deputy chief of staff and counsel to the assistant attorney general, joined

Morrison & Foerster's antitrust practice group as a partner in Washington, D.C., Shaw brings merger experience in clearance litigation and cartel representations, as well as deep knowledge of state antitrust enforcement, the firm said.

During his tenure at Main Justice, Shaw led merger reviews in the telecom, broadband, transportation, energy and agriculture sectors, among others. He previously served as a trial attorney in the technology and financial services section of the antitrust division, where he handled high-profile merger challenges in the technology and energy sectors, according to Morrison & Foerster.

Before joining the government, Shaw worked for seven years in private practice at Howrey LLP and Covington & Burling LLP, advising clients on criminal and civil non-merger investigations, in addition to other competition matters. His work there spanned a range of industries, including pharmaceuticals, oil and natural gas, technology, entertainment, financial services and steel.

### **Brian P. Morrissey**

Brian P. Morrissey, the former No. 2 lawyer at the U.S. Department of the Treasury, rejoined Sidley Austin LLP as a partner in the firm's Washington, D.C., office, where he will handle white collar litigation and investigations, the firm said. Morrissey had previously worked for over six years at Sidley and rose to partner in 2016.

Morrissey served as principal deputy general counsel at Treasury from October 2019 until January 2021, overseeing litigation and supervising attorneys on international trade, sanctions, anti-money laundering, financial regulation and cybersecurity matters. Before joining Treasury, he served as deputy associate attorney general at the Justice Department.

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