

IP Hires: Foley & Lardner, MoFo, Lewis Brisbois

By **Amber McKinney**

Law360, New York (June 9, 2017, 2:33 PM EDT) -- In this week's intellectual property partners on the move, Foley & Lardner bolsters its chemical, biotechnology and pharmaceutical practice in its New York office, Morrison & Foerster hires an ex-Wilson Sonsini pro with more than 20 years of experience representing life sciences companies, and Lewis Brisbois adds a trade secrets expert. Here, we offer details on these partners and others who have landed new jobs.

Ex-WilmerHale Atty Joins CCIA As Patent Counsel

A former senior associate at WilmerHale who previously worked as a law fellow for U.S. Sen. Al Franken and later represented Apple in patent litigation that went to trial has returned to the policy world as patent counsel at the Computer & Communications Industry Association.

Joshua Landau started at the tech industry lobbying group on May 15 after five years in BigLaw. A mixture of litigation and counseling in his career has given way to advocacy and policy work, he said.

"I think patents are fascinating, but I understand that other people may not agree with me on that," he told Law360. "So how do we show them that these are actually important issues that affect their day-to-day lives and that the reforms we're proposing matter and will improve things?"

As patent counsel, Landau will lead the association's Patent Progress blog as well as advocate for patent reform. He said the blog represents the antithesis of his previous work, where there were limits to how much he could say about advocacy.

"Patent Progress is sort of a platform to say, here is what I think the state of the law should be, here's how we should see these things develop," he said. "It's been a nice opportunity to advocate for change rather than to just describe the current status of things."



Joshua Landau

Foley & Lardner Adds Ex-Ropes & Gray Atty To NY Office

Foley & Lardner LLP says it has bolstered its chemical, biotechnology and pharmaceutical practice in its New York office with the addition of a former Ropes & Gray LLP attorney who has extensive experience in providing clients with patent counseling services.

Karen Mangasarian, who regularly advises life sciences clients in a broad range of technology areas, joined the firm as a partner on June 5, the firm announced Monday.

“Foley & Lardner’s strong life sciences practice and the deep patent counseling and prosecution bench provide a great platform to serve my clients,” Mangasarian told Law360.



Karen Mangasarian

Mangasarian said she will predominantly focus her practice at Foley & Lardner on strategic patent counseling and patent prosecution and portfolio management, adding that her life sciences clients will mostly come from the pharmaceutical and biotechnology areas.

Trade Secret, Contract Pro Joins Lewis Brisbois In Dallas

Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP has added former Godwin Bowman & Martinez PC shareholder Leiza Dolghih as a partner in its employment and labor practice in Dallas, where she will apply her experience defending against trade secret lawsuits and litigating disputes over contracts.

Dolghih left Godwin Bowman, where she became a shareholder in 2016, to join Lewis Brisbois on May 15. Before Godwin Bowman, she worked as an associate at Diamond McCarthy LLP for four years. Dolghih mentioned Lewis Brisbois’ size — more than 1,000 attorneys — and its initiatives for women as factors in her decision to partner there.



Leiza Dolghih

While at Godwin Bowman, Dolghih represented clients both pursuing allegations of trade secret theft and defending against such claims. In 2016, she defended Prosperity Computer Solutions LLC and its founders against claims that the company was created as a cover for trade secrets the two men had stolen from their previous employer, ECi Software Solutions Inc. The case resulted in a settlement the same year.

“It was a very complex case. It involved a state court lawsuit — actually two state court lawsuits — an arbitration, and a federal lawsuit, all arising out of the same or related to the same noncompete agreement and allegations of trade secret misappropriation,” Dolghih said about the case. “It was a successful outcome for all parties.”

MoFo Nabs Wilson Sonsini Life Sciences Atty In SF

Morrison & Foerster LLP has hired a Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati PC attorney with more than 20 years of experience representing life sciences companies and investors in complex transactions and patent-related issues to join the firm's global life sciences group in San Francisco.

Scott R. Carter, who holds a doctorate in chemistry from the California Institute of Technology, is joining Morrison & Foerster as of counsel to work with biotech, pharmaceutical, diagnostic and medical device companies, the firm said. Carter has extensive experience negotiating agreements related to corporate partnerships, patent licenses, research and development, clinical trials and manufacturing and supply deals, according to the firm. Carter also advises clients on the intellectual property aspects of mergers and acquisitions, according to his profile on the firm's site.



Scott Carter

Carter said Thursday that he was drawn to Morrison & Foerster due to its "highly impressive" global life sciences platform, its technology transactions practice and its reputation.

"I'm thrilled to join Morrison & Foerster's team and look forward to collaborating with my new colleagues in providing continued value to the firm's life sciences clients," he said in a statement.

--Additional reporting by Dorothy Atkins, Hayley Fowler, Kelly Knaub and Danielle Smith. Editing by Sara Ziegler.