

## Morgan Lewis Snags BakerHostetler Energy Litigation Partner

By **Michael Phillis**

*Law360, New York (January 23, 2017, 8:38 PM EST)* -- Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP boosted the firm's energy, health care and technology complex litigation practice on Monday by adding a veteran litigator from BakerHostetler as a partner in its Houston office, the firm announced.

Michelle Pector moved to her new position after about 16 years at BakerHostetler, where she spent time in the courtroom and in arbitration hearings on a range of local and national energy matters. She said she will be able to her expand work at Morgan Lewis, a firm with 2,000 lawyers in 29 offices.

"Now that I will be at Morgan Lewis, I will be able to synergize with the global resources Morgan Lewis has," Pector told Law360 on Monday. That will mean working on cases that will draw on resources from the firm's offices on other continents. When global clients need expertise in local rules and regulations, Pector will be able to tap into her colleagues' knowledge of energy-important regions including Dubai and London.

Her experience has served clients in the energy industry in Texas and around the country. She has especially deep experience in oilfield services, according to a statement from her new firm.

She said she was particularly proud of winning a 12-day arbitration hearing in which she defended her client from allegations around a business dispute where the other party was asking for more than \$100 million.

Pector said she won a unanimous verdict in the case, absolving her client from any liability.

"During cross-examination, I was able to establish key facts for the arbitrators that demonstrated the credibility of witnesses on the other side was lacking," Pector said.

Pector said she is looking forward to being able to work with larger clients. Firm chair Jami McKeon said Pector is a welcome addition for the firm's complex litigation practice.

"She has the tactical and strategic skills to provide crucial support to help them achieve their legal and business objectives," McKeon said in a statement.

Pector started as an associate at BakerHostetler in 2000 and was named a partner in 2007. She got her law degree from the University of Houston Law Center in 2000, according to her LinkedIn profile.

J. Gordon Cooney Jr., leader of Morgan Lewis' litigation practice, said Pector's experience will enhance the Houston office.

"Her track record of success representing clients, particularly in the energy industry, complements our powerful global litigation team," Cooney said in a statement.

--Editing by Brian Baresch.

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