

Morgan Lewis Snags Dorsey Banking Pro In London

By **Najiyya Budaly**

Law360, London (May 29, 2018, 5:26 PM BST) -- Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP announced that it has added a finance partner with experience advising clients in leveraged finance and banking matters to its London office from Dorsey & Whitney LLP.

Paul Denham, a former Morgan Lewis associate, brings with him years of experience advising banks, credit funds, borrowers and sponsors on a wide range of financing and restructuring transactions, Morgan Lewis said. His practice has focused on leverage and acquisition financing.



Paul Denham

"The firm has changed hugely since I left [as an associate] in 2013," Denham told Law360 on Tuesday. "Since then I would say it's more than doubled in size in London. It's much more dynamic and a bigger firm as a result of a merger and growing the teams."

"The focus has been on expanding generally but the firm has certainly expanded in finance. It's a busy time so a good opportunity to grow the practice," he added.

Denham said that he enjoyed working at the firm as an associate and this, coupled with its expansion, is what attracted him to his new role as finance partner.

"I've come back because it's a fantastic firm which is growing fast and developing," he explained.

Denham has worked on structuring and negotiating U.K. domestic and cross-border finance transactions involving firms in Europe, Asia, North America and emerging markets. He has experience across a variety of industry groups, Morgan Lewis said.

"When I was at Morgan Lewis initially I was doing primarily cross-border financing for international banks," Denham said. "I have a broad practice but I still do that work."

His notable recent work includes restructuring a large U.K. company's debt, which involved selling off some of its assets in Africa, Denham said.

Other firms on Denham's CV include Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP and SJ Berwin. Denham said that he studied at the University of Hull.

"Paul's wide-ranging experience includes working on behalf of such clients as credit funds, equity sponsors, and alternative lenders," Jonathan Bernstein, head of Morgan Lewis' finance practice, said in a statement. "This, combined with his familiarity with our emerging markets and U.K. mezzanine and leveraged finance practices, ideally complements our successful global finance team."

Denham, who joined Morgan Lewis on May 21, follows other finance hires to the firm. Georgia Quenby joined Morgan Lewis as partner in January alongside finance of counsel Victoria Thompson. Both lawyers have been admitted to practice in England as well as New York.

Quenby's previous role saw her heading Reed Smith's asset-based lending practice, leading complex and high-value cross-border financing transactions and restructurings, according to Morgan Lewis.

Thompson specializes in asset-based lending, borrowing-base financing and refinancing, as well as general banking and finance transactions, according to her LinkedIn profile. She worked at Reed Smith for nine years, leaving as a senior associate.

--Editing by Emily Kokoll.