

## Morgan Lewis Reunites Trio From Bracewell, Proskauer

By Mike Curley

*Law360 (September 4, 2019, 5:45 PM EDT)* -- Morgan Lewis & Bockius announced Wednesday that it was bringing back together a team of three finance lawyers who had previously worked together at Bracewell LLP to the corporate restructuring and transactional finance practices in its New York and Hartford offices.

Kurt Mayr and Jennifer Feldsher are joining direct from Bracewell, while Kristen Campana comes to Morgan Lewis from Proskauer Rose LLP. Mayr and Feldsher focus their practices on corporate restructuring, while Campana specializes in transactional finance, with experience in restructuring as well.

Mayr is joining the leadership team of the firm's global finance practice and will work out of both Hartford and New York, while Feldsher and Campana will be based in New York, according to a statement from the firm. Mayr started on Friday, while Feldsher and Campana's first day was Wednesday, they said.

Mayr told Law360 on Wednesday that the three have been wanting to work together again since Campana left Bracewell, and that Morgan Lewis represented the best opportunity for the three to reunite.

"We had extensive discussions with a number of very large, international law firms, but at the end of the day, our list of boxes that needed to be checked were really compellingly checked by Morgan Lewis," he said. "We pretty quickly came to the conclusion that this was the right home for us."

Campana said the attorneys' specialties complement each other well, saying with the way markets are heading, it was a good time to come back together to provide their clients with their services and those of Morgan Lewis.

Feldsher agreed, saying Morgan Lewis was the most compelling choice, with significant overlap between



Kurt Mayr



Jennifer Feldsher



Kristen Campana

the firm and their existing clients. That Morgan Lewis is a growing firm also drew them, Feldsher said, noting they want to continue to build out their practices.

“It’s really an exciting time to be here,” she said. “It’s already a premiere destination, and it’s continuing to grow that out, continuing to expand on its core strengths, and that, to us, is really exciting.”

Mayr added the culture and atmosphere at Morgan Lewis meshed well with what they need, saying with the long, hard hours they work, they’re glad to have coworkers they have fun with.

“We are delighted that Kurt, Jennifer, and Kristen are reuniting at Morgan Lewis,” Chair Jami McKeon said in a statement Wednesday. “They are well known to creditors around the world for their wide-ranging industry experience and our clients will benefit from their skill, experience, and reputation for representing traditional lenders and private investment funds in large, complex financing and insolvency scenarios. These three new partners will play a key role in strengthening our capabilities in all facets of direct lending/alternative lender representations.”

Mayr has represented creditor groups, including in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico’s debt restructuring, as well as others including debtors and private equity sponsors in both in- and out-of-court restructurings.

Campana has represented both direct and alternative lenders, in domestic and foreign financing cases, the firm said in a statement. She’s advised private debt funds, hedge funds and others in acquisitions, buyouts and other cases, in addition to bankruptcy reorganizations and liquidations, according to the firm.

Feldsher has represented secured creditors, investment funds, ad hoc groups and others in distressed situations, as well as corporate debtors in both in- and out-of-court reorganizations, sales and restructurings.

“Kurt, Jennifer, and Kristen are recognized industry leaders who further enhance our capabilities to respond to the needs of our clients,” Jonathan Bernstein, the leader of Morgan Lewis’ finance practice, said in a statement. “They will benefit from the combined experience of these new partners in all phases of the lifecycle of financial assets and the wide variety of counterparties involved in transactions involving those assets.”

Moving forward, Mayr said they plan to continue representing their existing clients with Morgan Lewis’ backing — including the bondholder group Mayr represents in Puerto Rico’s restructuring — as well as looking to introduce themselves to Morgan Lewis’ clients and offer their services.

Feldsher added being at Morgan Lewis will help them link industry specialists to those clients seeing distress right now, like the retail and energy industries, to deliver “soup-to-nuts” representation for them.

“I don’t love the term ‘synergies,’ but this is one of those times I really think it’s applicable,” Campana said. “The combination of what we each individually bring, together with what we bring as a group, and then multiply that by what the firm brings is, I think, a formula for really exponential growth and opportunity.”

--Editing by Alyssa Miller.

*Correction: This story previously misspelled Jennifer Feldsher's name in two places. The error has been corrected.*