

## BakerHostetler Gov't Contracts Lead Moves To Morgan Lewis

By **Matt Perez**

*Law360 (February 28, 2022, 3:28 PM EST)* --Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP on Monday announced the hiring of a former partner at BakerHostetler to lead its government contracts practice in Washington, D.C.

Barron Avery moved to the firm after nearly eight years at BakerHostetler, where he led its government contracts team in counseling contractors and subcontractors on deals with the federal government.



Barron Avery

"Barron is a skilled practitioner who is well positioned to advise on the myriad challenges and opportunities facing companies that contract with the U.S. government," firm Chair Jami McKeon said in a statement. "His experience will be invaluable to government contractors and subcontractors seeking to navigate a complex regulatory scheme and benefit from the renewed focus on federal procurement activity."

In his practice, Avery provides government contractors guidance on rules and regulations within the industry, as well as helping clients in litigation matters related to contracts. He represents clients in bid protests at the Government Accountability Office and the Court of Federal Claims and contract disputes with several boards of contract appeals. During his career, he has represented contractors working in security services, construction, information technology, food services, pharmaceutical, energy and aerospace, among other fields.

"With the likely expansion of infrastructure projects and continuing growth in the areas of investigations, cross-border investments and government-related litigation expected, Barron's insights will prove extremely useful and timely to our clients," J. Gordon Cooney Jr., leader of Morgan Lewis' global litigation practice, said in the announcement.

Prior to his time at BakerHostetler, Avery was an attorney at Wiley Rein LLP, as well as a legislative aide to U.S. Sen. Jeff Sessions. He was co-chair of the government and alternative dispute resolution task force at the International Institute for Conflict Prevention and Resolution, as well as a vice chair on the American Bar Association's contract claims and dispute resolution committee. He earned his bachelor's degree from Hampden-Sydney College and his law degree from Georgetown University.

"The firm's government contracts team is well positioned to counsel companies doing business with the government in this dynamic environment of simultaneous growth in opportunity and regulation," Avery told Law360 on Monday. "I'm truly looking forward to leading the practice at such a time as we enable

government contractors to better manage emerging risks and regulations and to fully realize the resulting rewards."

Morgan Lewis ranked as the fourth-largest U.S. law firm in last year's Law360 400 list, with around 1,700 attorneys and 670 partners around the time of publication. Earlier in the month, the firm hired former acting deputy director at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Kelly Gibson as a partner and co-leader of its securities enforcement practice in New York and Philadelphia.

--Editing by Stephen Berg.

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