

Morgan Lewis Adds Ex-Schnader Harrison Atty In Pittsburgh

By **Kelly Knaub**

Law360, New York (February 24, 2014, 12:28 PM ET) -- Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP has bolstered its litigation practice group in its Pittsburgh office with the addition of a former Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis LLP litigation attorney who represents clients in the energy, health care and finance and securities industries, the firm said on Monday.

John Gisleson, who has more than two decades of experience in litigation and has brought more than 15 cases to verdict in multiple jurisdictions, has joined the firm as a partner on Feb. 20. Gisleson was previously a partner in Schnader Harrison Segal & Lewis' litigation practice, where he formerly served as co-chair.

"We welcome John to our office, as his intimate understanding of the western Pennsylvania business and legal landscape will be a tremendous asset to our clients in the energy industry and other sectors," Marlee Myers, managing partner of the Pittsburgh office, said in a statement.

Gisleson concentrates his practice on business litigation involving tort, contract and statutory claims, representing clients in federal, state and bankruptcy courts and American Arbitration Association dispute resolutions. He is also experienced in employment litigation, defending employers against gender, age and race discrimination claims as well as the enforcement of restrictive covenants in federal and state courts.

"John's wealth of experience and high degree of substantive knowledge of tort, contract and statutory claims will be invaluable to our clients," Jami McKeon, group leader of Morgan Lewis' litigation practice, said in a statement. "The breadth and depth of his practice will strengthen our litigation capabilities in key industries, including the expanding U.S. energy sector."

Gisleson also represents clients in the construction, manufacturing and retail industries. He has joined a team of about 700 attorneys that comprise the firm's litigation practice.

His experience includes defending a hospital against whistleblower claims involving conditions in an intensive care unit, counseling clients concerning construction claims for additional compensation and prosecuting and defending claims arising from energy-related activities in the Marcellus Shale.

Gisleson also defended directors and officers in the manufacturing industry against breach of fiduciary claims in connection with leveraged recapitalization and redemption transactions, with a damages claim that exceeded \$100 million.

"John's courtroom savvy and deep understanding of legal issues impacting companies across a variety of industries will serve our clients well," firm chair Francis M. Milone said in a statement. "He has handled numerous complex cases over the course of his career and has an impressive record of success at trial. John will greatly expand our litigation capability."

Gisleson is also dedicated to pro bono work, which includes an asylum appeal for a Croatian woman who was the victim of domestic violence in her native country, a constitutional challenge to the elimination of the International Baccalaureate program in a Pittsburgh-area school district and work on death penalty cases.

He earned his law degree from the Catholic University of America's Columbus School of Law and his undergraduate degree from the University of Notre Dame.

Morgan Lewis has more than 1,600 legal professionals in 25 offices throughout the United States, Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

--Editing by Katherine Rautenberg.

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