

Morgan Lewis Gains ITC-Savvy IP Lawyer From O'Melveny

By **Ben James**

Law360, New York (February 11, 2013, 4:06 PM ET) -- Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP has bolstered its ranks in Washington by luring over an intellectual property litigator from O'Melveny & Myers LLP to chair the firm's International Trade Commission group, Morgan Lewis said Monday.

Eric S. Namrow, who focuses on ITC matters as well as district court litigation, joined Morgan Lewis as a partner in its litigation and intellectual property groups, the firm said. Namrow had been with O'Melveny & Myers since 2010.

"Morgan Lewis presents a tremendous opportunity for me, both in terms of the depth and the breadth of its IP practice and its global reach," Namrow told Law360 on Monday.

Namrow is well-versed in handling section 337 probes at the ITC as well as related proceedings at the U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Court of International Trade, Morgan Lewis said. Namrow will chair the firm's ITC practice, which is a sub-practice of the IP practice.

Namrow has represented parties in more than 40 ITC investigations spanning an array of technologies and industries, including computer science, telecommunications and pharmaceuticals.

"The ITC is becoming an increasingly popular venue for patent infringement litigation and is likely to become the battleground of choice for major intellectual property fights," Morgan Lewis' chairman Francis M. Milone said in a statement. "Eric has a long history trying cases before the ITC, and his impeccable litigation credentials will certainly benefit our technology, pharmaceutical and other industry clients."

He's also handled trials in federal district courts around the U.S. involving all aspects of intellectual property law — such as patents, trademarks and trade dress and trade secrets — in addition to appeals to the U.S. Supreme Court, state supreme courts and the Federal Circuit.

"Eric is recognized as a top ITC practitioner with a strong knowledge of the agency, its judges and staff," said Kell M. Damsgaard, who leads Morgan Lewis' intellectual property practice. "We're thrilled to bolster our intellectual property capabilities with someone of his caliber."

Morgan Lewis noted in its statement on Namrow's arrival that its litigation bench in the nation's capital had been expanding.

News of Namrow's addition comes on the heels of the announcement of another partner-level addition to Morgan Lewis' Washington, D.C., office. The firm said Feb. 4 that it had brought former Federal Trade Commission General Counsel Willard Tom back into the fold.

Tom served as FTC general counsel from 2009 through 2012, and had previously been a partner with Morgan Lewis from 2000 through 2009. Prior to his first stint as a Morgan Lewis partner, Tom held leadership roles at both the FTC and U.S. Department of Justice during the Clinton administration, the firm said.

And Morgan Lewis announced near the end of October that four White & Case LLP white collar attorneys, including former acting U.S. Attorney General and Deputy Attorney General George J. Terwilliger III, would join the firm as partners in Washington.

Overall, Morgan Lewis employs about 1,400 attorneys at 24 offices across the United States, Europe and Asia.

--Additional reporting by Maria Chutchian and Scott Flaherty. Editing by Rebecca Flanagan.

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