

Diverse Partners Network Newsletter

Dear All,

Set out below is our newsletter for this week. I wish to thank each of you for your support of our Diverse Partners Network.

Remember to submit your notices of events as early in the week as possible. We welcome your suggestions on how we can continue to provide a valuable service to the DPN members.

December 20, 2013



Industry News

Taj Clayton Named Partner at Fish & Richardson

Taj Clayton is the newest partner in the Dallas office of Fish & Richardson. He has successfully represented a variety of clients ranging from award-winning filmmakers to one of the world's largest financial institutions. Mr. Clayton practices in both federal and state court, focusing on complex business, intellectual property, employment, and mass tort litigation. Congratulations Taj!



Three Recommended to Replace Retiring Judge Oberly

The District of Columbia Judicial Nomination Commission has forwarded to President Barack Obama the names of three individuals for his consideration in selecting a nominee to fill a judicial vacancy on the District of Columbia Court of Appeals. The President has sixty days to select a nominee to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Judge Katherine A. Oberly. The Commission recommended the following candidates to fill this vacancy:

Kathryn A. Oberly. The Commission recommends the following candidates to fill this vacancy: Todd Sunhwaee Kim, the Solicitor General of the District of Columbia and has held that position since it was established in 2006; the Honorable Neal Elliott Kravitz, an Associate Judge on the Superior Court of the District of Columbia, where he has served since 1998; and Paul Reinherz Quitman Wolfson, a partner in the Appellate and Supreme Court Litigation Group of Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP.

Sherry Williams Chosen as one of Houston's 50 Most Influential Women

Sherry Williams, Senior Vice President & Chief Ethics & Compliance Officer at Halliburton Company has been named one of Houston's 50 Most Influential Women by Houston Woman Magazine. She is being recognized for her professional accomplishments, as well as her contributions to the Houston community. She and the other honorees will be featured in the magazine's January 13 issue.



Jonathan D. Goins Named Among Georgia' Top Lawyers

Jonathan Goins, a partner in Lewis, Brisbois, Bisgaard & Smith LLP was named recently among *Georgia Trend's* Legal Elite for 2013. *Georgia Trend* magazine publishes an annual "Legal Elite" listing of its top lawyers as selected among peers. Goins practices in intellectual property transactions and related litigation in the areas of trademarks, copyrights and trade secrets for a wide variety of industries including technology, new media, entertainment and sports.



DPN Member Directory Needs You!

We are in the process of updating our member directory. The 2014 edition of the directory will continue to feature partner photos, contact information and practice areas. We also plan to add schools attended in order to facilitate alumni connections. Please send your updated information (if any), including school information and photos, by email to Laura Wilkinson (laura.wilkinson@weil.com) and Greg Olaniran (goo@msk.com). We welcome names of partners who should be added to the directory - including attorneys recently elevated to partner! The deadline for providing information for the 2014 edition is **January 31, 2014**.

Ralph Everett, Joint Center President and CEO, to Step Down December 31

Ralph B. Everett, the president and CEO of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, announced December 12 that he will step down after seven years as head of the research and policy organization, which focuses on issues of concern to African-Americans and communities of color. Everett was appointed to lead the Joint Center, which was founded in 1970, by the organization's board of governors in December 2006. He immediately set out to realign the organization into policy-focused institutes, building on the previous success of the Health Policy Institute and creating new "centers of excellence" for media and technology and civic engagement and governance. Under his leadership, the Joint Center also established the Commission to Engage African Americans on Energy, Climate Change and the Environment — an effort to bring more diverse voices into the debate on global warming and what to do about it — which eventually became the Joint Center Energy and Environment Program.



Microsoft Study Shows Legal Profession Slow to Diversify

According to a [recent article](#) in the *New York Law Journal*, Microsoft Corporation commissioned a study on diversity in the legal profession and found that the legal profession is diversifying at a much slower rate than other professions. Between 2003 and 2012, the percentage of black and Hispanic attorneys inched up by a mere 0.8 percent, and they now account for just 8.4 percent of attorneys in the country. As a point of comparison, in the same time period the number of black and Hispanic surgeons increased almost ten percentage points and financial managers saw a six percent increase.

Debra Brown Confirmed as Federal Judge

The U.S. Senate has confirmed Jackson attorney Debra Brown for a federal judgeship in north Mississippi, and she will become the first black woman to be a U.S. district judge in the state. President Obama nominated Brown in May for a judgeship presiding over court in Greenville, Miss. The post came open when U.S. District Judge W. Allen Pepper Jr. died in 2012. Brown is a Yazoo City native, and is currently a shareholder in the Jackson law firm Wise Carter Child & Caraway, which she joined in January 2012. Before that, she was a partner at the Jackson law firm Phelps Dunbar.



Gerald W. Roberts is Founding Partner in Roberts & Watson, P.C. in Dallas

Gerald W. Roberts focuses his boutique practice on intellectual property protection and business litigation, including applying for, registering, licensing, and/or litigating patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret, and unfair competition interests, as well as general business disputes. Prior to starting Roberts & Watson, Gerald was a partner in an Am Law 200 law firm and has more than 17 years of legal experience, including patent application preparation/prosecution and/or litigation in electrical and mechanical arts.



Employment Opportunities

Multiple Positions, Cetera Financial Group, El Segundo, CA

Cetera Financial Group seeks two in house attorneys for growing Legal Department in El Segundo. Litigation Attorney with 4 to 8 years of experience, highly motivated individual with excellent writing skills & ability to handle all aspects of cases (e.g., screening, discovery, motions, trial assistance, etc.) attention to detail and ability to multi-task. Previous experience with FINRA arbitrations is a plus. Corporate Attorney with 3 to 7 years of practice. Duties may include responsibility for corporate governance, vendor agreements, privacy, anti-money laundering compliance and other transactional work. Previous financial services experience desirable but not required. Excellent writing and communication skills, attention to detail and ability to multi-task required. Please send resumes to: LegalCandidates@cetera.com and indicate which position you are applying.

Multiple Positions, Pepper Hamilton

Pepper Hamilton is currently hiring multiple attorney positions in various practice groups and levels. Interested attorneys should [click here](#) for more information and to apply.

Two Transactional Attorney positions, Accenture

Accenture seeks two transactional attorneys. Main job duties include the reviewing, drafting and negotiation of a large number of medium to complex client transactions within a corporate environment. Advise company leadership on legal risks associated with such transactions. Specifically this role will serve Accenture's services in the commercial and government clients in the health services and health insurance sectors. Interested parties should [click here](#) for additional information and to apply.

President, National Civil Rights Museum, Memphis, TN

The National Civil Rights Museum, at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, Tennessee, is currently searching for a new Executive Director. The museum is one of only five sites in the United States that is a member of the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, and receives over 200,000 visitors each year. For additional information about the museum, please [click here](#). For additional information about the position, and to apply, please contact [Leslie Nair](#), Associate Partner, Bellwether Education Partners.

Executive Director, Legal Aid of the Bluegrass, Covington, KY

Legal Aid of the Bluegrass (LABG) seeks an Executive Director to lead this nonprofit organization dedicated to providing civil legal assistance designed to alleviate the most brutal problems endured by low income residents of 33 eastern, northern and central Kentucky counties, typically in the areas of government benefits, consumer, housing and family law. The next Executive Director will lead LABG in a time of great change and opportunity as the organization undertakes initiatives to expand fundraising, strengthen intake, update technology, and plan for the future. For a full job description, and to apply, please [click here](#).

Executive Director The Equal Rights Center

The Equal Rights Center (ERC) is a national non-profit civil rights organization based in Washington, D.C. With more than 7,000 members located in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, the ERC works nationally to advance civil rights by promoting equal opportunity in housing, employment, disability rights, immigrant rights, and access to public accommodations and government services through education and outreach, training, counseling and advocacy, research, investigation and testing, and enforcement. As a result of the retirement of its current Executive Director, the Board of Directors of the Equal Rights Center is seeking an accomplished and visionary individual to become the Executive Director (ED) of the organization. Reporting to the Board of Directors, the ED is directly responsible for the organization's consistent achievement of its mission and financial objectives. For all full position description, and to apply, please [click here](#).

Multiple Positions, Littler Mendelson

Littler Mendelson is the largest U.S.-based law firm exclusively devoted to representing management in every aspect of labor and employment law. The firm currently has openings for attorneys nationwide. Please contact [Aaryn Mittendorff](#) for more details.

Multiple positions, Morgan Stanley

Morgan Stanley is currently hiring for various positions in compliance and asset management. If interested, please go to [MorganStanley.com/careers](#) for full job descriptions and application information.

Multiple Positions, Wells Fargo & Company

This is a great time to join the Wells Fargo Law Department. As a result of a strategic resource evaluation, the Wells Fargo Law Department is currently engaged in an aggressive recruitment and hiring phase. The Law Department is seeking several seasoned attorneys to support Wells Fargo across the country in a wide variety of practice areas.

attorneys to represent Wells Fargo across the country in a wide variety of practice areas. For more details and to apply online, please [click here](#).

Junior Litigation Associate, Public Client Practice, Cohen Milstein

The Public Client Practice offers a unique opportunity to do public-sector work in a private-sector setting. We exclusively represent government entities and non-profit organizations as outside counsel in high-stakes cases. Applicants should have 2-3 years of litigation experience at a law firm or in federal or state government. Applicants must be able to: take a lead role in researching and writing briefs; play a strong supporting role in discovery; and supervise paralegals in litigation-related tasks. A strong academic background with excellent writing skills is required. Applicants should e-mail a cover letter, resume and law school transcript to: careers@cohenmilstein.com.

Counsel, Market Regulation, FINRA, Rockville, MD

The Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) seeks Counsel for its Market Regulation Department in Rockville, MD, FINRA is the largest independent regulator for all securities firms doing business in the United States. Our chief role is to protect investors by maintaining the fairness of the U.S. capital markets. Job responsibilities include participation in examinations, investigations and disciplinary proceedings on behalf of the Market Regulation Department (Department) for violations of the Association's rules and the federal securities laws and provides legal advice and counsel to the staff of the Department. For a full job description [click here](#). All interested parties should send resumes to [Robert Marchman](#).

Director of Government Affairs and Communications , City of Baltimore

Responsible for public policy and external affairs, community relations, stakeholder outreach and communication, business advocacy, speechwriting and CEO public presentations and internal and external correspondence. Also supports efforts of the Communications department serving as tertiary spokesperson and crisis communications liaison. To learn more, please visit: www.baltimore.org/careers

Telecommunications Attorney, Kelley, Drye & Warren, DC

Kelley Drye & Warren LLP has an opening for a highly motivated mid-level telecommunications attorney, preferably with at least 3 years of experience. We offer a diverse practice representing a broad range of domestic and international carriers (wireless and wireline), VoIP providers and application providers on a wide range of communications law issues. The ideal candidate will have significant experience counseling clients on inter-carrier negotiations, state and federal regulatory proceedings, arbitration and complaint proceedings, enforcement and compliance proceedings and telecommunications related litigation. Strong analytical abilities, proven research and writing skills and excellent client-relations skills required. FCC or Hill experience is a plus. DC Bar membership is also required. Please send resume and transcript to [Shehani Goonewardena](#), Recruiting Coordinator.

Litigation Associate, Ballard Spahr, Wilmington, DE

Our Wilmington office seeks corporate litigation associate with four to six years of experience. Qualified candidates will have superior academic credentials, communication skills, and written work product. This is an excellent opportunity to join a sophisticated litigation practice and work in a dynamic, expanding, and team-oriented atmosphere while enjoying the benefits and resources of a national law firm. To apply, please [click here](#).

Multiple Positions, Securities and Exchange Commission

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) currently has multiple openings for Staff Attorneys and Experienced Attorneys throughout the agency. Please [click here](#) for position descriptions and application instructions.

Multiple Positions, Office of the Attorney General, State of Maryland

There are currently multiple open Assistant Attorney General positions in the Office of the

Attorney General of the State of Maryland. Please [click here](#) for additional information

Litigation Associate, Jackson Lewis, Reston, VA

Jackson Lewis seeks an experienced Litigation Associate for its Reston, VA office. Responsibilities include defense of agency charges of discrimination, lawsuits involving a broad range of employment-related claims and advice and counseling involving similar issues; advise and train employers on a wide range of employment laws and regulations, including anti-discrimination laws; represent employers in court, before administrative agencies, at mediations and in arbitration in a broad range of employment matters, including discrimination, contract, employment tort, and non-compete cases. Qualifications include 1 - 3 years employment/litigation experience; experience in workplace law and employment litigation; and Virginia Bar Admission. Interested candidates should forward their resume to forward resume to Michael Hatcher at hatcherm@jacksonlewis.com

International Attorney, Payless ShoeSource, Topeka, KS

Payless ShoeSource is the largest specialty family footwear retailer in the U.S. and in the Western Hemisphere. This position reports to the Division Senior Vice President – General Counsel and will have responsibility for providing legal services to the corporation in the area of international law (franchising, joint venture, mergers & acquisitions, retail law issues in Latin America, international corporate work for Latin America, and customs). Responsibilities include a variety of international law issues related to advising the business and the international development team regarding franchising, joint venture, mergers & acquisitions, retail law issues in Latin America, international corporate work for Latin America, and customs and trade issues predominately in Latin America. The position requires significant experience negotiating and drafting complex business deals and providing real time advice to the business to address typical retail issues predominately in Latin America. Interested candidates should contact [Leila Nourani](#).

For additional opportunities, please check the Metropolitan Corporate Counsel's [Hot Jobs List](#)

For more information about the Diverse Partners Network, please contact Benjamin F. Wilson at bwilson@bdlaw.com.