Locke Lord's alumni newsletter

LOCKED in

Growing our practices to Meet Clients’ Needs

ALUMNI PROFILE
Jennifer A. O’Malley
In-House for McDonald’s and Lovin’ It

AROUND THE FIRM IN 3 MINUTES
Learn a bit about all 13 offices

FALL 2012
Letter from the Chair

Welcome back to the third edition of Lockedin, the Firm’s alumni newsletter that we started about a year ago. Thanks for taking the time to read this issue, and thanks for being part of our initiative to reconnect with former colleagues.

Since our first alumni event in Houston in September 2011, the Firm’s alumni database continues to grow, and more than 200 alumni have joined Locke Lord’s LinkedIn alumni network and are communicating regularly online. We are honored that so many of you took the time and effort to attend our previous alumni get-togethers in Houston and Dallas, and we welcome you to our third alumni event in Chicago. We expect the crowd to come early and stay late, and we truly relish the chance to catch up.

I’m confident you will enjoy the articles inside this issue of Lockedin. Our lead story tracks the growth of our practice areas as we work to meet our clients’ needs all over the world. Check out our website to read the descriptions of new and expanded practice areas, all of them led by seasoned veterans with years of experience in their respective fields. We’ve also enhanced our Insurance Practice for clients by adding to it a Commercial Litigation section.

Privacy and Data Security is a timely new area. And we’ve beefed up our Corporate and Tax practices by adding sections on Tax Controversies and Securitization and Structured Finance. We constantly look for ways to update existing practice areas and make them even more relevant and timely for those who depend on our insight to survive and thrive in the competitive global marketplace.

We continue to find fascinating examples of colleagues who have left Locke Lord to find some pretty incredible niches in private industry – so far, we’ve profiled a published author and two top-level airline executives engaged in one of the most-watched business restructurings in U.S. history. This time we take you to one of the most recognizable brands in the world – McDonald’s Corporation.

You will love hearing what former Chicago Associate Jennifer O’Malley has to say about her long-ago Firm colleagues and how she ended up with a company that operates in nearly 120 countries and has its own university!

The Firm leadership column this issue introduces you to our Board of Directors, a key group of 15 Partners who set the tone for Locke Lord and keep us focused on our strategic goals and Mission Statement.

I’d like to remind you that you can follow Locke Lord news, announcements, webinars and other events from a variety of venues – LinkedIn, Twitter, our Locke Lord App and our website. We are always looking for better ways to keep you informed and connected. We also welcome your ideas for future articles or events, and you can find contact information on the back page.

We are glad to have you back.

Jerry Clements, Firm Chair

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Growing to Meet Clients’ Needs
Practice Areas Evolve and Improve

Keeping practice areas current is an around-the-clock operation. From Aviation to White Collar Defense, Locke Lord offers more than 30 areas of legal expertise in its full-service menu for clients. And, like any good business, the Firm closely monitors market trends and frequently adds new practices and expands and updates existing practices to stay current for clients.

The Firm’s most recent addition is the Privacy and Data Security team, which operates as part of IP Litigation and includes more than 20 lawyers who can help clients with data stewardship and management during a time of explosive information and technological growth. Austin Partner Bart Huffman leads this new team.

The Firm also has added important subsections to further improve its strong practices in the Corporate, Insurance and Tax arenas. The Insurance Practice has added Commercial Litigation, led by Chicago's Matt Furton, Randy Hack, Brian Hays, Dan Schlessinger and Rowe Snider.

Tax Controversies is another new subsection and is headed by Chicago Partner Peter Poulos. The international Corporate Practice now has a Securitization and Structured Finance group led by recent lateral Partner Keith Krasney in New York.

In the past year alone, several Practice Areas have updated their offerings or added subsections to better serve clients.

They include:
• Government Contracts (new subsection, Business Litigation)
• New Markets Tax Credit (new subsection, Tax)
• Public Finance (new subsection, Tax)
• Renewable Energy (new subsection, Tax)
• Long-Term Care (new subsection, Labor & Employment)
• Cards and Payments (new practice area started in London)

New to the Firm
Locke Lord has added 46 new attorneys and non-attorney professionals to its approximately 650-lawyer Firm in the last six months. These numbers include 36 lateral hires across the U.S. and London offices, as well as 10 new associates who recently graduated from prestigious law schools or completed judicial clerkships. City-by-city, here are Locke Lord’s new hires:

ATLANTA
John Williamson, Partner
Alexandra Dishun, Associate
Adam Starr, Associate
Samantha Tzoberi, Senior Counsel

AUSTIN
Chuck Salmon, Associate

CHICAGO
Peter Poulos, Partner
Charles Wu, International Partner
Wasim Bleibel, Associate
Joel Williams, Associate
Jay Kallas, Senior Counsel

DALLAS
Brett Foster, Counsel
Trey Ibsen, Staff Counsel
Paul Lee, Staff Counsel
Katherine Tullos, Staff Counsel

HOUSTON
Chris Martin, Partner
Anna Kuperstein, Associate
Julie Rinne, Associate

LONDON
Rob Askew, International Partner
Damian Cleary, Partner
Gavin Coull, Partner
Ayesha Hasan, Partner
Sarah Linton, Partner
Helena Coates, Associate
Grace Man, Associate
Michael Kilbee, Of Counsel
Dan Kelman, Consultant

LOS ANGELES
Chris Lee, Associate
Matthew Nazareth, Associate
Ben Gumperle, Senior Counsel

NEW YORK
Paul Kaplan, Partner
Keith Krasney, Partner
Alan Katz, Of Counsel
Sarah Nelson, Counsel

SAN FRANCISCO
Stephanie Chambers, Associate

WASHINGTON, D.C.
Marlon Paz, Partner
Daniel Weitzel, Of Counsel

New Associates from Law Schools and Judicial Clerkships

AUSTIN
John Ellis

DALLAS
Stephen Cole
Susan Fisher
Grant Johnson
Danielle Olson
Aaron Terwey

HOUSTON
Chelsea Overhuls
Jennie Simmons
Pam Taylor
Andrea Verney
In-House and Lovin’ It

McDonald’s Managing Counsel Jennifer O’Malley Built Her Legal Foundation With Firm Predecessor Lord Bissell

While sitting across from Michael Jackson in a hotel room in Beverly Hills discussing a potential business deal with McDonald’s, Jennifer O’Malley realized that she really does have her dream job. When she thinks how her career as McDonald’s Managing Counsel for Marketing and Intellectual Property has evolved over the last 12 years, a typical day – which is never really typical – can involve anything from handling the worldwide trademark clearance for the launch of the company’s first ever global advertising slogan “i’m lovin’ it” (and crossing her fingers that she got it all right as the line was being printed on billions of pieces of packaging in different languages all around the world), to negotiating agreements with movie, television and music companies, sports figures and celebrities, to handling the Happy Meal license agreements for one of the world’s largest toy producers.

O’Malley today handles all legal aspects associated with food quality, menu development, food advertising and nutrition on a global basis, including the recent launch of national menu board labeling in 13,000 restaurants in the United States – and she is quick to credit the time that she spent at Lord, Bissell & Brook for much of her success.

“Looking back on it now, I realize what a great opportunity it was to be at Lord Bissell,” she says. “When I started as a first year associate with LBB’s Chicago office in 1993, my law school classmates working at other firms were all going off on endless document reviews in warehouses, while I was getting real experience right out of the box – actually taking depositions, arguing motions in court and writing real briefs, working on tangible things in real cases,” O’Malley recalls. “It was an amazing amount of experience I got early on.”
She has used that experience to build a challenging legal career with one of the world’s most recognizable brands, a career that has taken her around the globe. “It’s fascinating to me as I’ve traveled to places like Prague and Shanghai to see that McDonald’s is both a powerful global brand and a valued local brand at the same time,” O’Malley says. “So while you can walk into almost any McDonald’s restaurant anywhere in the world and get a Big Mac, we also have distinctive local menu items that embrace local tastes.”

“O’Malley got plenty of opportunities to handle cases and build direct relationships with clients through the guidance of Chicago’s Nick DiGiovanni, Dan Schlessinger, Keith Parr, Mike Gaertner, Tim Maggio, Terry Canade and others. “These guys taught me how to be a lawyer,” O’Malley says. “How to be a good advocate for clients. How to make good decisions and be accountable for those decisions. They gave me a lot of guidance, but they also gave me the freedom and independence to learn my own lessons.”

And even her back-then associate colleagues like Kenedy and Kelly Turner built a strong support network to help one another, as opposed to some other firms in which associates were groomed to be competitive, even cutthroat.

“The Firm continues to succeed because it develops smart lawyers who have solid people skills and good common sense... clients need lawyers like that who can focus on the issues and find practical business solutions.”

McDonald’s has a long list of international favorites that most Americans have never heard of. “So in India, where much of the population doesn’t eat beef, we offer options like the potato-patty McAloo Tikki burger and the Chicken Maharaja Mac,” O’Malley explains. “You can get the EBI Filet-O shrimp burger in Japan, Spinach and Parmesan Cheese McNuggets in Italy, the McRice burger in Asia, the Croque McDo sandwich in France and the McLobster Roll in Canada.”

Over the years, the complexity of the fast-food industry has challenged O’Malley and her team with a changing landscape of laws that involve customers, stakeholders, media, government agencies and more – in every corner of the world. “When I first started working at McDonald’s, a lot of our advertising promoted that our food was hot, delicious and yummy. Now we’re talking about ingredients, nutrition, sustainability, food sourcing, animal welfare – all the issues that impact our business are multi-layered and complex.”

A Firm connection helped O’Malley get her foot in the door at McDonald’s. Her longtime boss is Chicago Partner Ann Walsh’s sister. O’Malley remains in contact with many of her Lord Bissell colleagues, including law school classmate and longtime friend Jennifer Kenedy. She frequently harvests the early lessons she learned at the Firm and credits Mike Comiskey, now Locke Lord’s General Counsel, with helping her become a solid lawyer.

“Mike really had a huge influence and impact on my career,” she says. “He taught me to be a good writer, and really taught me how to think like a lawyer. I don’t think I’d be where I am today without the lessons he taught me as a young lawyer.”

Most of her former Lord Bissell colleagues still work for the merged Locke Lord today, a fact that speaks well of the culture the Firm has developed and sustained over the years, she says.
It’s not easy to keep up with 13 offices around the globe, but Locke Lord, its attorneys and staff work hard to keep the lines of communication open and the dots connected. Join us for a quick tour of 11 U.S. offices, London and Hong Kong to learn a bit of news from each.

**Atlanta** was a growth center for the Firm in 2012, with eight new lawyers joining the office, including several in the Business and Consumer Finance Litigation groups and the Corporate Practice.

The **Austin** office remains on schedule to move to a new headquarters early next year. Located in the heart of the Texas capital, the nearly 70 lawyers and staff will move to two floors at One American Center on Sixth and Congress. The new space allows room to grow.

**Chicago** hosts Locke Lord’s third alumni gathering (Oct. 25, 2012) and is home to the Firm’s third-largest office. Several lawyers in Chicago recently were honored by Just The Beginning Foundation, or JTBF, with the organization’s 2012 Diversity Partnership Award for their many years of work with middle school students. The JTBF works to increase racial diversity in the legal profession and on the bench.

**Dallas** office Managing Partner Don Glendenning brings honor to the Firm and to the entire legal profession this fall as he receives the very prestigious 2012 Hope for Humanity Award from the Dallas Holocaust Museum. He has dedicated his time and energy to a long list of organizations and institutions in North Texas for decades.

Locke Lord’s **Hong Kong** office is a key presence in the important China and Asian markets, where attorneys from Houston, Dallas, Sacramento, Chicago and San Francisco are actively cultivating and representing overseas companies in the United States and American companies doing business overseas. The office is a strategic springboard for the Firm’s Corporate, Litigation, IP, Real Estate and Finance, White Collar and Government Relations teams.

Locke Lord lawyers around the country routinely serve leadership roles in legal and industry groups, and the **Houston** office has a good example this year with Partner Brent Benoit serving as President of the Houston Bar Association. He has challenged the Bar’s 11,600 members to participate in an aggressive slate of volunteer and pro bono projects involving area problems, including hunger in Houston; health care access for the underserved; drought relief projects; and human trafficking.

**London** Partner David Grant recently chaired the Firm’s first annual Insolvency & Restructuring Conference, a half-day gathering that he has hosted for many years and that attracts top-notch speakers to examine the issues that have been pertinent to the Insolvency & Restructuring arena over the past year. More than 150 people attended, representing a wide range of businesses, including IPs, banks, turnaround funders, ABLs (asset-based lender) and trade credit insurers.
Locke Lord has expanded its West Coast presence to better serve clients, and the Los Angeles office recently helped coordinate with the Marketing Department to create a “We’ve Got California Covered” marketing piece that can hold up to 18 practice area descriptions that highlight the Firm’s legal expertise on the West Coast, from Antitrust to Tax. In addition, the piece introduces all three Firm offices in California: Los Angeles, Sacramento and San Francisco.

The New Orleans office plays a big role in Locke Lord business through its handling of state and federal litigation matters throughout Louisiana and the country, working with attorneys from other U.S. offices and London on energy, real estate and other issues. One example: New Orleans attorneys recently won dismissal of several asbestos claims against a New Jersey client.

Locke Lord offices routinely offer informative seminars and webinars for colleagues, clients and industry representatives. Attorneys from the Firm’s Austin, Chicago, New York and Los Angeles offices will talk about important issues facing long-term care facilities during a webinar presented from the New York office on Nov. 7 entitled “Employment and Regulatory Considerations for Long-Term Care Center Operators and Owners.”

Each year, the Sacramento office sponsors the Sacramento Business Journal CFO of the Year Awards. As the sole law firm sponsor, this gathering offers great exposure for Locke Lord, and the sponsorship gives our attorneys the opportunity to participate in the nomination process. In 2012, the Firm’s nominee, the CFO for client Hanson McClain, was one of the five honorees.

Several Locke Lord attorneys on the West Coast attended this year’s California Minority Counsel Program in San Francisco, during which they met and interviewed with six major companies and institutions. The California Minority Counsel Program promotes diversity in the legal profession by providing attorneys of color with access and opportunity for business and professional development through networking, conferences and other events, and the Firm participates annually.

Locke Lord Strategies Partner Mark A. Siegel in the Firm’s Washington, D.C., office was nominated for an Emmy Award for producing the acclaimed documentary on the life and work of former Pakistani Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto. Siegel earlier this year won a Peabody award for Bhutto.
Keep in Touch!

Now that we’ve found you – don’t be a stranger. Keep in touch with us by registering on our website – www.lockelord.com/about/alumni/ - and spreading word to any other Locke Lord alumni you’ve kept up with since your time here.

We welcome your ideas for future alumni events or Lockedin stories. Share them with us by emailing Emily Vodek at evodek@lockelord.com.

Thank you for joining us and helping us work toward strengthening our alumni program. We are glad you could be here and look forward to seeing you again soon.