

Paul | Weiss

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Alumni Bulletin

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP

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Letter from Leadership

Dear Paul, Weiss alumni:

For our spring issue of the *Paul, Weiss Alumni Bulletin*, we hope you enjoy an interview with our partners Karen Dunn, Bill Isaacson and Jessica Phillips on their landmark pro bono trial verdict against hate groups in Charlottesville, as well as our regular features: firm news, alumni profiles, career resources, CLE offerings and the class notes section.

News from Paul, Weiss

We had another extraordinarily successful year across all of our firm's practices and offices, representing the most important clients in the world in their most important and complex matters. Meanwhile, continuing our legacy of pro bono leadership, our lawyers addressed urgent threats to the rule of law, to election integrity, to reproductive choice and to the most vulnerable members of our community.

Noteworthy Transactions

In 2021, the M&A group advised on more than 250 announced deals valued at over \$455 billion, including more than 55 billion-dollar-plus transactions—an 87% increase in deal count and a 255% increase in deal value over 2020. Highlights included advising GE in its plan to form three separate public companies and its \$30 billion combination of GECAS with AerCap; Nuance in its completed \$19.7 billion sale to Microsoft; GIP in its \$15 billion acquisition, alongside KKR, of global data center REIT CyrusOne; Apollo in its \$43 billion merger with Athene, and its \$5 billion acquisition of Verizon Media; Merck in its \$11.5 billion acquisition of Acceleron Pharma; MGM in its \$8.45 billion acquisition by Amazon; 3G Capital in its \$7.1 billion acquisition of a controlling stake in Hunter Douglas; numerous major capital markets transactions; and major fund launches for General Atlantic, Apollo and others.

Litigation Highlights

Our litigators had an extraordinary year, winning a [landmark verdict](#) for Apple in one of the most closely watched civil antitrust trials this year; helping [FIFA](#) in its successful application for \$201 million in restitution from the DOJ for losses FIFA and two other leagues suffered as a victim of long-running corruption schemes by former football officials; and preparing an internationally acclaimed report for [Credit Suisse](#) in connection with the bank's investigation of the collapse of Archegos Capital Management, among many other achievements. Litigation Department Co-Chairs Jessica Carey and Ken Gallo [spoke about the Litigation Department](#) in *The American Lawyer's* "Litigation Leaders" column in January.

Pro Bono

- **Challenging Violent Extremism**
On November 23, alongside co-counsel, we [won a historic, \\$26 million trial verdict](#) on behalf of nine people injured during the violent 2017 "Unite the Right" rally in Charlottesville. We invite you to view our conversation with our lead lawyers on the case, Karen Dunn, Bill Isaacson and Jessica Phillips, [here](#) or read about the litigation [here](#). And in January, representing District of Columbia Attorney General Karl Racine, with co-counsel, we filed a civil conspiracy suit seeking to hold the Proud Boys and Oath Keepers accountable for the January 6, 2021 attack on the U.S. Capitol. Jeannie Rhee recently spoke about the case with [The National Law Journal](#).
- **Defending Reproductive Choice**
We continue to challenge the country's most restrictive anti-abortion laws before appellate courts, including representing

Mississippi's last abortion clinic in the [pivotal Supreme Court appeal](#) in November and filing an [important amicus](#) in October in a Supreme Court appeal of Texas's draconian anti-abortion law. Litigation partner [Alexia Korberg](#), recently named a "Young Lawyer of the Year" by *The American Lawyer*, published an [op-ed](#) in *The Washington Post* on the threats posed by the Texas anti-abortion law.

- We are thrilled that [Steven Banks](#), former commissioner of the New York City Department of Social Services and former Attorney-in-Chief of the Legal Aid Society, has joined the firm as Special Counsel, overseeing the firm's pro bono practice.

ESG and Law Institute

Continuing our cutting-edge ESG work, in September, we launched the [ESG and Law Institute](#), a joint venture with the UC Berkeley School of Law, creating a new academic hub and forum for businesses and academic institutions focused on the intersection of ESG, business and the law. We announced a second joint venture with Howard University School of Law in January.

San Francisco

The Recorder, a leading legal news publication focused on Northern California, [highlighted](#) the success of our San Francisco office, which today includes 16 lawyers and a new bricks-and-mortar location at 535 Mission Street; we celebrated the office's [first anniversary](#) in January.

Other News

In December, the firm elected nine talented lawyers to the partnership, including corporate partner [Ian M. Hazlett](#), restructuring partner [Christopher Hopkins](#), tax partners [Matthew B. Jordan](#) and [Robert A. Killip](#), corporate partner [Kaisa Kuusk](#), litigation partner [Crystal L. Parker](#) and corporate partners [Paul L. Sandler](#), [Suhan Shim](#) and [Samuel J. Welt](#). We recently added a number of stellar lateral partners, including former Chancellor of the Delaware Court of Chancery [Andre Bouchard](#), in Wilmington; former prosecutor and leading litigator [Josh Hill](#), in San Francisco and New York; and a widely respected antitrust lawyer, [Joshua Soven](#), in D.C. In New York, we welcomed restructuring partner

[Ken Ziman](#), M&A partner [Megan Spelman](#), executive compensation partner [Rebecca Coccaro](#), investment management partner [Aaron Schlaphoff](#) and corporate partners [Jeff Kochian](#) and [Gerald Brant](#). Former Standard Chartered Group general counsel [David Fein](#) joined as special counsel in London.

While we are all enormously proud of what our firm has accomplished over the past year, we are most proud of how our Paul, Weiss family has showed remarkable resilience amid continuing challenges related to the pandemic. After reopening for six weeks last fall, we once again shuttered most in-person operations over the holidays amid a surge in COVID-19 infections, moving to provide booster vaccinations on site, not just to staff, but to their families, to clients and to friends of the firm.

Today, we have fully reopened our offices in line with public health guidance. We are eagerly anticipating (re)connecting with you, our valued alumni, in person soon. We hope that you continue to stay healthy and safe.



Brad Karp, Chairman
Valerie Radwaner, Deputy Chair
Jeff Marell, Corporate Partner and Alumni Committee Co-Chair
Liza Velazquez, Litigation Partner and Alumni Committee Co-Chair

Alumni Spotlights



Melanie Ash

Litigation, 2000 – 2004

General Counsel, NYC Racial Justice Commission and Senior Counsel, Impact Litigation Unit, New York City Law Department

What led you to join the NYC Racial Justice Commission?

When I was approached about the opportunity to serve as General Counsel to the Racial Justice Commission, it felt like the job that I had waited a lifetime to get. Since my law school days, I have been interested in finding ways to apply the critical legal thinking skills that lawyers are trained to use to the intractable problems of racial injustice and inequity. It is that interest that led me to New York City to study comparative constitutional equality and critical race theory under the many leading

CRT and constitutional scholars at Columbia Law School, giants like Kimberlé Crenshaw, Kendall Thomas and Patricia Williams. Almost as soon as I arrived in the city to embark on my studies in 1998, I felt a connection to New York City that has only grown stronger and deeper in the years since. In the time since I graduated from Columbia with my LLM, I have dedicated over a decade of my professional life to working for the city and the people that make it such a special place. And so, when I was offered this role, I welcomed it as an opportunity to return to the issues that had brought me to New York City all those years ago.

Because the first-of-its-kind Racial Justice Commission is simultaneously a Charter Revision Commission with the

statutory power to propose changes to the City's Charter, and an advisory and consultative body with the historic mandate to identify ways to begin the work of dismantling structural racism, the role of General Counsel to the Commission has turned out to be the opportunity of a lifetime. It has offered a unique and unparalleled opportunity to marry my passion for and commitment to a more just, equitable and fair New York City with the legal and analytical skills, and New York City-specific expertise that I have spent the better part of my career developing. Since joining the Commission, I have had the honor of collaborating with powerhouse legal minds, such as Jennifer Jones Austin, the Commission's Chair, and CEO and Executive Director of the Federation of Protestant Welfare Agencies; and RJC Commissioners Lurie Daniel Favors, Executive Director of the Center for Law and Social Justice at Medgar Evers College, and Ana Bermudez, Commissioner of the Department of Probation. Together, we have worked to turn a critical lens on New York City's foundational structures and laws in order to uproot systemic racism, and to reimagine a more equitable city for all New Yorkers.

It is no coincidence that this opportunity came out of the local, national and international reckoning about racial injustice arising from the devastating killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and countless others, as well as the deep racial disparities revealed by the COVID-19 pandemic in New York City. As part of the city's efforts to grapple with its own need for racial reconciliation, justice and reform, the Racial Justice Commission was charged by Mayor de Blasio with a mandate to reimagine and redesign a more equitable city government. While I recognized that the challenges of the role would be enormous, I knew that I couldn't pass up the chance to work hand in hand with some of the most talented, brilliant and passionately committed advocates for racial justice you will ever come across—both the Commissioners themselves and the

incredible staff that was assembled to support them—to take on this important work at this most critical time when our city is at a crossroads.

As we near the one-year anniversary of the Commission’s formation, what do you see as one of the greatest developments/accomplishments so far?

The Commission’s final report, “NYC For Racial Justice,” is by far our greatest accomplishment. The report documents the extensive and ambitious project that we undertook and completed in under nine months and includes the three ballot questions that registered New York City voters will vote on, along with explanatory abstracts, the proposed legislative text and background information about how the proposals were developed by the Commission along with their rationale; and a “Roadmap for Racial Justice” and Commission recommendations that highlight much of the work that remains to be done within the government at every level and in sectors beyond government, if New York City is to be the truly equitable city that we all want and need. It is the culmination of the Commission and the staff’s tremendous efforts to engage the public, the process of incorporating the public’s voice and a call to action to continue the work into the future.

I personally take great pride in the Commission’s first proposal, to “Add a Guiding Statement of Values” as a preamble to the New York City Charter. Unlike many constitutional documents, the Charter, which functions as New York City’s constitution, does not begin with a preamble, or with any guiding values or principles that help to lay a foundation for the city we want to see. Instead, it is an amalgam of technical and descriptive laws cobbled together over centuries, devoid of any unifying

values or principles. It was an exciting challenge for me to play a role in identifying and articulating the values that would provide both inspiration and guidance to city government as it carries out its comprehensive planning and auditing functions on behalf of New Yorkers. The proposed preamble draws on international examples like the new South African Constitution and the Constitution of the Republic of Ireland, as well as the foundational documents of cities from around the country. The language chosen was a collaborative effort between the Commission and the public, and New Yorkers were invited to participate by identifying values important to them. The preamble contains an acknowledgment that the city sits on the traditional territories of the Lenape people and recognizes the harms of the past, but also sets a hopeful and aspirational vision for the future of our city. I hope that all New Yorkers will see that their important contributions to New York City are acknowledged and celebrated in the preamble, and that it can serve as a unifying statement of the values that make New York City great.

Tell us about the voter education initiative and what the initiative seeks to accomplish in its initial phases as well as what is at stake in November 2022.

The Racial Justice Commission has put forward three proposals for New York City voters to consider in the upcoming election. On November 8, 2022, New Yorkers should flip their ballot to vote on adding a statement of values to guide government; establishing a Racial Equity Office, Plan and Commission; and measuring the true cost of living. Now that these proposals have been submitted by the Commission to the City Clerk for inclusion on the ballot, it’s our responsibility to reach as much of the New York City electorate as possible to make sure

they know about the proposals, and understand the details of each proposal, including what they are intended to accomplish, and to encourage them to turn out to vote. We have five million New Yorkers to reach—it’s a huge task that will require a lot of help! Over the next eight months we will be rolling out an education and get-out-the-vote campaign, and through that, we hope to connect with as many New Yorkers as possible, as well as with organizations who are willing to help spread the word.

The Commission’s three proposed ballot measures, taken together, are intended to set the city on a new path by creating a foundation for city government that supports the well-being of all communities and neighborhoods, correcting longtime unjust decisions that deprive and marginalize groups without power. If the proposals are adopted, for the first time, there will be a statement of foundational values in the Charter, placing New Yorkers at the heart of the government’s purposes and goals. Also, for the first time, the city will be required to create a comprehensive strategy to improve racial justice, equity and fairness. The proposals include the creation of an agency that will be authorized and charged with pushing all agencies toward solutions that interrupt and reverse the ways communities become oppressed, marginalized and disempowered. The proposals would also introduce new accountability measures: the city will be required to provide data so the public can see whether its promised strategies and spending actually shrink the gap in well-being caused by structural racism. The proposals also include the creation of a commission to bring in community members’ voices and report to the public on the city’s performance in furtherance of racial equity. The final proposal to measure the true cost of living would set a new standard for how New Yorkers should be able to live with dignity, rather than in poverty.

What do you see as the biggest challenge in the pursuit of racial equity in New York City?

I’ll begin by acknowledging that New York City has been the birthplace of many racial justice leaders and movements, and the site of many milestones, and the Commission has sought through its work to carry on and honor that legacy of struggle towards progress. Throughout the city’s history, many challenges have been faced in the pursuit of racially equity, but I think

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often the biggest challenge, both in the city and nationally, is the assumption that the status quo is neutral, and that this supposed “neutrality” does not cause harm. Some people perceive the movement for racial equity as biased because it seeks to change the status quo; however, that assumes that the status quo is a neutral starting point, without thinking critically about whether the status quo holds that privileged space because it is the best, fairest, most effective or most equitable way, or merely because it’s the way things have always been done. By clinging blindly to the status quo, we may be—whether intentionally or unintentionally—upholding inequitable rules and structures under the erroneous belief that in some way they represent neutrality.

Adding to the challenge, inherent in any attempt to change the status quo, was the vastness of the specific mandate the Commission was given to upend racial inequity in city government. We were faced with a truly daunting undertaking that could not possibly be achieved in nine months, and proposing racial equity-focused revisions to the New York City Charter confirmed what we already knew: while the proposals put forward by the Commission are intended to lay the groundwork for a more equitable city, there will remain much more work to be done. Thus, although the Racial Justice Commission is time limited and will cease to exist on Election Day, November 8, 2022, we know that the work of pursuing racial equity must be widespread and ongoing and will require other institutions and individuals to carry it forward, in government and all other areas of society.

As General Counsel, what does your day to day look like?

Over the nine-months-long ballot proposal development process, my day to day varied greatly based on where we were in the process, and what was happening around us. At the outset of the Commission’s formation, the landscapes of our country, state and city were deeply in flux with changing regulations relating to the pandemic, a new governor and an active mayoral election cycle. Because the Commission was still in its critical formative stage, I was primarily focused on setting the Commission and the RJC Commissioners up for success by staffing a small team of lawyers and developing policies and



practices addressing privacy, privilege, freedom of information, conflict of interest, open-meetings law and pandemic-specific emergency regulations in order to fortify the Commission against any potential legal issues. During later phases of our work, I juggled those logistical and regulatory compliance issues with my role as legal advisor to the Commission and staff tackling myriad legal issues arising out of the Commission's policy development function, including legislative, electoral, preemption and constitutional issues. The Commission was charged by Mayor de Blasio with submitting a Final Report and related Charter revision proposals by December 31, 2021, and so in the lead-up to that deadline, my team and I were intensely focused on translating the Commission's proposed policy initiatives into the precise language that will appear on the ballot in November 2022, the explanatory abstracts that accompany the ballot measures and the proposed legislative text that will be added to the Charter to effectuate the proposals if they are approved by New York City voters.

In our current phase, my day to day includes navigating the important legal parameters that govern the development and execution of a voter education campaign. This is an exciting citywide campaign to educate all five million registered voters, with special efforts to reach language communities protected by the Voting Rights Act. In recent weeks, I've been advising the Commission as it works to build out a campaign strategy that engages and educates New York City voters in a neutral way, without advocating for any particular outcome.

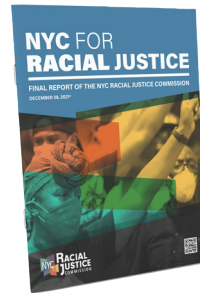
What lessons have you learned during your years litigating at Paul, Weiss that have helped you in your current role?

My time at Paul, Weiss occurred at a very formative stage of my career, and the invaluable lessons that I learned as a litigator at Paul, Weiss became the skills and experiences that I rely on day in and day out in my role as General Counsel: legal analysis and writing, client service, mentoring of younger attorneys and more. A couple of lessons from my time at Paul, Weiss stand out. First, being a part of a Litigation Department that was staffed with generalists, by intention and design, was incredibly valuable to me. As a young attorney I was regularly asked to step into areas of commerce, industry and law that were completely unfamiliar, and to develop a comfort level with and fluency in them in a very short period of time. Those experiences were invaluable preparation for my work as General Counsel, where I was similarly asked to learn and develop fluency in a significant number of areas over a very short, intense period, and was able to approach that challenge with the confidence of having successfully done it before. I am also grateful for the

example of practicing law at the highest level of excellence in a high-pressure environment that was modeled consistently by the many exceptional attorneys I worked with at Paul, Weiss.

What role do you see lawyers playing to support and amplify the Commission's vision?

We hope that, in advance of the November election, lawyers will take the time to learn about and join the conversation on the proposed changes to the New York City Charter that the Commission has put forward. The specifics about the proposals can be found on the Commission's website at nyc.gov/racialjustice.



Beyond the ballot proposals, through the Roadmap for Racial Justice published in its final report, the Commission recognizes there is much more work to be done within government at every level, and in sectors beyond government. The Roadmap situates the Commission's work in a larger landscape of change, recommending specific ways the Commission's work can be built upon, and advancing the important conversation about how the city can be more racially equitable.

Lawyers have an important part to play in this conversation. Over the past months we have seen a troubling backlash across the country that seeks to silence the literary and educational voices of people of color, eliminate both long-standing and new measures to promote racial equity and even to deny the truth about shameful periods of American history. It is no coincidence that this backlash has been accompanied by a disturbing increase in hate crimes against the Asian community, and a rise in antisemitism. These developments make clear that we are at a critical crossroads in the struggle for racial justice, and lawyers' voices are more important than ever to help counter the rampant false narratives about racial equity, to reject the rewriting and whitewashing of historical events, to speak out against systemic racism and to stand up for critical thinking.

Who were some mentors who inspired you? How have they impacted your work and relationships today?

I was lucky to be mentored at Paul, Weiss by Ted Wells, who is widely recognized as one of the greatest trial lawyers in the country. While working with Ted, I participated in my first jury trial and learned how to try cases in the finest tradition of excellence. I learned so much from that experience, including the importance of immersing myself in the facts of the case until

I know them inside and out, forming a connection and establishing a relationship of trust with the jury and developing a cohesive and understandable trial narrative. During my time at Paul, Weiss, Ted served, and continues to serve, as a valued mentor to me, and as a champion for me. In fact, when the opportunity to serve as General Counsel came to me, Ted helped me to carefully consider whether it was the right opportunity for me. Some of the many other talented attorneys that I was privileged to work with and learn from at Paul, Weiss and whom I valued as mentors during my time at the firm include partners Michael Gertzman and Jeh Johnson, counsel Maria Keane, former partner Maria Vullo (Litigation, 1988 – 2010; 2011 – 2015) and former senior associate Diane Knox (Litigation, 1997 – 2007), now Senior Vice President, Legal Advisor and Director at Mitsubishi Corporation, whom I vividly remember graciously taking the time to coach me through taking my first deposition. I still use the deposition tips and pointers that Diane gave me to this day.

In addition, I credit—and will be forever grateful to—Paul, Weiss for introducing me to some of my most trusted friends and confidantes. Chief among them is Sarah Dodds-Brown (Corporate M&A, 1998 – 2005), a former corporate associate and now Executive Vice President and Managing Counsel for Global Enterprise Services & U.S. Market at American Express, who was featured in the last Alumni Spotlight. It was Sarah who introduced me to the concept of building a “personal board of directors” made up of people who are committed to your personal and professional development and success, and can serve as advisors, counsellors, cheerleaders and champions in your life and career. Sarah sits at the head of my personal board, alongside a number other trusted, and I hope, lifelong friends I made at Paul, Weiss, including alumni Diane Knox, Júanne Harris (Litigation, 2003 – 2008), Michelle Parham (Litigation, 2004 – 2007), Heather Reid (Corporate M&A, 2001 – 2007) and Mala Ahuja Harker (Litigation, 2000 – 2003).

What advice would you give to current associates about making the most of their time at the firm?

I would encourage current associates to approach their time at Paul, Weiss with an eye to developing the foundational skills that will carry them through the rest of their careers and, to that end, taking an active

role in asking for opportunities and training that will provide all of the skills and experiences needed to be a well-rounded and multifaceted lawyer; and developing and nurturing the relationships that will be equally foundational to their future success. Associates should be actively invested in their own development and learning, and take advantage of the many resources that Paul, Weiss makes available to them. I would also urge them to seek out and take on some of the many pro bono opportunities Paul, Weiss makes available to its attorneys. Associates at Paul, Weiss are in an incredibly privileged position, which enables them to give back to the community in a meaningful and rewarding way.

What is one word that best describes your outlook for 2022? What excites you the most?

As we enter 2022, I am feeling exhausted—but also energized. In the midst of a fast-moving and unprecedented pandemic, the Commission and staff spent nine intense months engaged in incredibly important, moving and transformative conversations across the five boroughs with thought leaders, activists and everyday New Yorkers with lived experience about the changes they would like to see in city government, and then undertook the painstaking work of distilling what we heard into ballot proposals that incorporated what they told us in a way that could meaningfully move the needle towards racial equity. We believe that the proposals have the potential to do just that, and with the sense of accomplishment that I feel at having submitted the Commission's ballot proposals to the City Clerk, the feeling of exhaustion that I felt at the end of December is giving way to a renewed sense of energy and excitement for this fall, when New Yorkers will have the opportunity to make their voices heard on the ballot proposals at the polls.

Putting aside the ballot measures, the Commission is now also focusing its efforts on the issues set out in its Roadmap for Racial Justice, through which it hopes to continue the work of bending Dr. King's “arc of the moral universe” not only towards justice, but also towards a city where we all have what we need to lead thriving lives, and where race is not a determinant of outcomes, opportunities, successes or failures. I hope the Paul, Weiss community will join us in examining all the many ways that we can use the Roadmap to re-envision and rebuild an equitable city for all of us.



Ricky Fong

Corporate M&A,
2006 – 2010

General Counsel,
Terraformation Inc.

Tell us about your professional experience. What led you to go in-house?

I started my career with Paul, Weiss right after law school. In my law firm days, I did a mix of M&A, capital markets, private equity and venture capital transactional work, with ample opportunity to work on cross-border deals with Asia and Europe. Naturally I took an opportunity to join an automotive manufacturer as its International Counsel, eventually relocating to its Asia headquarters in Shanghai. After a short stint in venture capital and working

at a fintech startup, I returned to the United States and joined a forestry technology startup. I'm primarily drawn to in-house lawyers' opportunity to impact decisions directly within an organization. Additionally, it is tremendously rewarding as a startup in-house lawyer to see your work enabling founders to solve some of the biggest problems in our world.

You've touched several different industries in your career so far (Big Law, manufacturing, venture capital, fintech and now greentech). What lessons have you learned from each?

My Big Law experience served as the foundation for drafting contracts and negotiating deals. In automotive manufacturing, I learned how to build a global regulatory compliance program at a public company whose entire industry faced antitrust scrutiny domestically and abroad. My venture capital investment experience taught me how to evaluate startups and how the wrong fit within a founding team can potentially result in a startup's demise. It also allowed me to transition into operator roles with the startups that we looked at. Finally, at my last fintech and the current forestry technology startups, I learned why focus is fundamental to the success of an organization. Legal teams at startups will always have plenty of curve balls to deal with, but one should never lose sight of strategically optimizing legal resources for organizational objectives and key results.

What makes Terraformation special as a startup?

A few things make Terraformation pretty special. First of all, Terraformation's founder and early members are seasoned veterans from diverse backgrounds, including forestry, botany, carbon science, fintech and logistics. The team recognizes the urgency of the climate crisis, and we are relentlessly focused on scaling native reforestation around the world to solve this problem. The world needs a trillion new trees, and we look to solve the various bottlenecks to make this happen. Speaking of the world, that's another unique aspect of Terraformation. As a startup that has fully embraced the remote work culture, it is not uncommon to have a Zoom call with participants across six or seven different time zones, as our reforestation and seed banking efforts span the globe.



How would you describe your day to day practice?

Given the global reach of our forestry partners and seed bank users, legal issues could come up from the Aloha state all the way to Zimbabwe. There are not many places I can think of where I get to negotiate an asset purchase deal, work with the people team on policies concerning our team around the world, create solutions for the business development team to apply on cross-border transactions, prepare for our SEC filing, debrief our team on the latest developments on sanctions and advise senior management on GDPR and data privacy matters—all on the same day!

What are the most challenging aspects of your job? Has your law firm experience helped you in any way?

One of the most challenging aspects of my job is determining our risk tolerance on any given task. If I turn the dial all the way up by taking an overly conservative approach with some of our policies or contracts, nothing will ever get done in a fast-growing startup like ours. Sometimes, I need to allow for some flexibility and help my team understand the risks before proceeding ahead. Conversely, if I turn the dial too low due to being overly risk tolerant, our sales team might be thrilled to get the deal done today, but we could end up subjecting ourselves to a major risk in the future. Every situation is different because a number of factors can sway how we perceive risks within the organization. Sometimes, a strong commercial reason can outweigh these risks. However, under- or over-valuing them can result in leaders making suboptimal and often costly decisions.

Which trends and developments in the green startup scene do you currently find exciting?

The use of blockchain among green startups is particularly fascinating to me. We are already seeing plenty of applications out there. But within the forestry and climate technology sectors, we could greatly benefit from carbon offsets via smart contracts, tokenization of carbon units or a carbon marketplace built on the foundation of a decentralized network, among others. These solutions, if properly implemented, could help standardize and expedite transactions on a global scale, reduce friction and transaction costs and improve transparency in carbon markets around the world.

Who were some mentors who inspired you? How have they impacted your work and relationships today?

Yvonne Chan inspired me to maintain interests and pursuits outside of corporate law. Carl Reisner taught me through a variety of deals how legal issues in M&A transactions directly impact value and price. Outside of Paul, Weiss, I've worked with Lawrence Chu for a long time at BlackPine and Oriente—he always pushed me to see things from an owner and investor perspective. Here at Terraformation, every time I speak with Huey Lin, it's like attending a clinic on leadership. To this day, what I learned from these remarkable people continues to shape how I develop as a lawyer.

Tell us about your life outside of work. What are some of your hobbies?

To cope with the intensity of my weekdays, I try to hike and spend time outdoors with my wife during the weekends and our time off.



The team recognizes the urgency of the climate crisis, and we are relentlessly focused on scaling native reforestation around the world to solve this problem.



My weekend pickup basketball games also help me decompress. And when the time comes for the NBA playoffs, I follow the Suns and Chris Paul as they contend for a championship.

What advice would you give a young lawyer who wants to be a GC someday?

Have a plan to seek out different kinds of work. One of the most important qualities of a GC is having great judgment. It's difficult to develop great judgment if you don't encounter, struggle with and overcome a wide range of challenges under different situations. While I focused on M&A in Big Law, I also welcomed what appeared then to be random assignments in a bankruptcy sale (which in hindsight gave me a better understanding of how creditors operate), an internal investigation involving a private equity client (which taught me the importance of Upjohn warnings and gave me a front-row seat to forensic accounting) and a pro bono representation (which allowed me to do research about 501c3 and taught me how to counsel non-lawyers). Sometimes, we don't fully appreciate these "distractions," but the opportunity to extend our knowledge and experience across different issues and clients will ultimately widen our perspective and help us develop better judgment.

What project are you most looking forward to in the coming year?

Terraformation recently announced its partnership with BITKRAFT Ventures that will support reforestation and seed banking efforts in Ukraine and Tanzania. In the coming months, I'm looking forward to structuring and executing more of these types of deals that will hugely impact reforestation projects globally. Separately, we are beginning to ramp up the production and orders of our seed banks. One of the biggest bottlenecks to reforestation is the shortage of seeds around the world. Our seed banks integrate a set of hardware and software technology solutions that will allow reforestation teams to better collect, monitor, prepare and manage their seed supplies remotely. Managing our supply chain, manufacturing and delivery will require thoughtful and innovative commercial arrangements that my team will be tasked to create. I can't do the tech to help reverse climate change, but I look forward to building the process that will allow others to do so.



Paul, Weiss
Litigation Partners
from left to right:
William A. Isaacson,
Karen L. Dunn,
Jessica E. Phillips

Hate Groups Held Accountable in Charlottesville:
Paul, Weiss Lawyers Discuss

LANDMARK TRIAL WIN

PW: Who were your clients?

Jessica: Two of our plaintiffs were injured on Friday night, August 11, 2017, when they were surrounded by torch-wielding white supremacists on the University of Virginia’s campus outside of the Thomas Jefferson statue right by the rotunda on campus. And then, seven of our plaintiffs were injured in some form during the car attack, when James Fields, one of the defendants in the case, purposefully and intentionally drove his car into a crowd of peaceful protestors.

PW: Who were the defendants?

Jessica: The defendants in the case were the most prominent and key members of the white supremacist movement in 2017. Both individuals and

organizations who planned and then executed on the violence that they planned during the so-called “Unite the Right” rally.

PW: What was at stake in this case?

Karen: What was at stake in this case was justice and accountability in particular for our plaintiffs who were, as Jessica said, grievously injured during the events of August 11th and 12th. They had waited four years to have a trial in this case, to tell their stories and to confront the people who had organized the violence that had hurt them and changed their lives irretrievably since that day. But also, at stake was the larger issue of whether people can get together, organize, plan, premeditate and then execute, racially motivated violence on the streets of an American city.

PW: How did the team come to be involved in this litigation?

Karen: Our fantastic team at Paul, Weiss came to be involved in this litigation because one day at this point many years ago, I got a call from a lawyer in New York who I knew by reputation but not personally, named Robbie Kaplan (Litigation, 1992 – 1995; 1996 – 2017). Robbie happens to be a Paul, Weiss alumna and she had called me up because she had known of some work that I did as a prosecutor in the Eastern District of Virginia, and she asked me, “How would you like to sue some Nazis with me?” And I answered, “Absolutely, I would love to do that.” It was an offer I could not refuse.

PW: What were some of the challenges faced by the team?

Bill: There were strong logistical challenges in this trial; there always are in a trial that lasts many weeks. But there were some that were very unique here. It started with the security, we had high levels of security where we were staying at the hotel, both for us and the plaintiffs. We had a war room there in which the security was resident but also on the floor of the hotel where we slept occasionally at night. Then they would escort us to the courthouse. Once we were at the courthouse we were basically handed off from private security to the marshals. The Charlottesville courthouse was shut down for everything other than this trial. Public access to the court was also unique in this circumstance because the public was not allowed in the court room; however, there was a phone line that you

could dial into, so that hundreds of people could listen in at any time. And so, people interested in the trial were listening, but that also included the white supremacist community who were heavily resident on this line, as we learned.

PW: How did you manage the emotions of a trial like this?

Karen: Well, I think that everybody involved in this trial was affected by the content of the trial. So, for me personally, I began to think of the courtroom as really a bubble of hate and violence. And, you don’t really know what it’s going to be like to listen to the most hateful violent words and see the most hateful violent images

day in and day out, in a windowless room for hours, until you do it. And one of the things that starts to happen, I think to a lot of people, is that you become kind of numb to it because it’s a matter of your own self-preservation. So, you realize at a certain point, the things that were very shocking the first time you saw them or the first time you heard them, are all of a sudden less shocking because they’re a part of your everyday life. And, you know, we started to understand that this was a deliberate strategy on the part of the defendants to desensitize the jury. To make it so that the jury, when they went to deliberate would say, “Oh, that’s not so bad, we’ve heard that so many times before.” And so, one of the things I did when I got up in closing, was I specifically said to the jurors, “You know I recognize that being in this bubble day in and day out can be really difficult but to not let yourself be desensitized.”

Bill: Yeah, one of the themes from the plaintiffs was PTSD and just the extreme levels of that that they had suffered and because of what Karen is talking about, we were just getting a little piece of that. That you know, saying these words, saying these documents, we didn’t go through anything like what the plaintiffs went through, obviously. But you could just see that little fragment of it, it affected you, and then it had an effect on you when you watched the plaintiffs testify because of the empathy you were normally feeling but also because you were sharing a little bit of their situation.

Jessica: And, speaking of the plaintiffs, that was the flip side of this case as well. So right, when we’re cross-examining the defendants, we’re dealing with their racist rhetoric, their hate, their violence, but when we put the plaintiffs on, when we prepared them to testify, and then when we put them on at trial, it was the flip side of that. It was the trauma that they experienced, and that was obviously emotionally intense.

APRIL 2022

Hate Groups Held Accountable in Charlottesville: Paul, Weiss Lawyers Discuss Landmark Trial Win

Karen L. Dunn
William A. Isaacson
Jessica E. Phillips



Click to watch the video

PW: What was the verdict?

Karen: In this case the jury found that there was a conspiracy among all of the defendants in the case to commit racially motivated violence in Charlottesville. And so, the verdict in this case was the finding of conspiracy as to each and every one of the defendants for both compensatory and punitive damages. And the damages amount was somewhere between \$25 and \$26 million dollars. We were incredibly gratified by the verdict, by the conspiracy finding, and we were also very gratified to have secured some measure of accountability and justice for our plaintiffs. But I will say, as gratified as we were by the verdict itself, it was really the response to the verdict that was the most incredible.

PW: What will you remember most about this case?

Karen: Personally, this case exceeded my wildest imagination for the impact that it has made.

Bill: We were greeted with applause, cheering. They felt that what they had put themselves through had been worth it, that

what they had experienced and been willing to do had been supported by that jury verdict. It was just very, very gratifying to see that immediately.

Jessica: One of the things that I will take away from this experience over the past four years, is the relationships that I was able to develop with our nine plaintiffs, and in particular, the three women that the Paul, Weiss team primarily handled at trial. I was just so incredibly in awe of their courage and their bravery in standing up in court and testifying and doing so in the face of two different defendants who were pro se, and so got to examine, cross examine, these plaintiffs one on one. So not only did they have to get up in court and tell the judge and tell the jury about what had happened to them, about the violence that they experienced, about what it felt like to be subjected to racially motivated violence and how that impacted their lives, but then also to face two of the individuals who actually planned and perpetrated that violence. You know, that was just something truly incredible to see, that bravery was unbelievably inspiring and so those relationships are ones that I will cherish going forward.

Bill: Each individual defendant, while they had a lot in common, had their own story and, you know, at a certain level we have a lot of knowledge superficially of racism and antisemitism, but to see it play out in depth through specific individuals who were defending it and proclaiming it was a remarkable thing to witness and will be hard to forget.

Karen: There's so many things to take away from this experience. I mean I think that at the end of the day for me, you know, I'm a big believer in our democratic institutions and in the jury system. And I just thought that this was a very important demonstration of the power of American institutions to bring order to chaos and to bring an answer to a very important question that a lot of people have right now, which is: can people who want to do harm to others, want to bring violence to our streets and want to bring racially motivated anger and pain to people, what is our legal system going to say about that? And so, I think our case helped answer that question, and so for me, the response of everyday Americans that have nothing to do with the law, don't think about it like we do, to seeing that this happened is the thing that I will probably remember the most.

Class Notes as of March 1, 2022

70 Ron Meister (Litigation, 1970; 1974 – 1980) was re-elected in 2021 to a third four-year term as Town Justice in Mamaroneck, New York. He completed a two-year term as President of the Westchester County Magistrates Association, and was elected a Director of the New York State Magistrates Association. He recently appeared as Juror #8 in a production of *Twelve Angry Men*.

84 Herbert Nass (Personal Representation, 1984 – 1987) has joined Davis+Gilbert LLP as a partner.

87 Catherine J. Ross's (Litigation, 1987 – 1994) most recent book, *A Right to Lie? Presidents, Other Liars, and the First Amendment*, was released at the end of 2021 (University of Pennsylvania Press). She has talked about the book at the Cato Institute, the National Constitution Center and other venues, and will be at the Brennan Center on May 4 at 7 p.m. virtually discussing the Big Lie. Catherine is currently Lyle T. Alverson Professor of Law at George Washington

University. **David Kornblau** (Litigation, 1987 – 1995) has joined Dentons as a partner. **Jane Levine** (Litigation, 1987 – 1991) has joined DailyPay as Chief Compliance Officer.

88 Elizabeth Holland (Litigation, 1988 – 1997) has joined Allen & Overy LLP as a partner.

89 Eduardo Cukier (Tax, 1989 – 1992) has joined Olshan Frome Wolosky LLP as a partner.

90 Lynn Neils (Litigation, 1990 – 1994) has joined Foley Hoag LLP as a partner.

91 Adam Schuman (Litigation, 1991 – 1992; 1993 – 1995) has joined Menai Financial Group as General Counsel.

93 Marci Sweren (Corporate, 1993 – 1995) has joined Wolters Kluwer Health as Senior Counsel.

94 Patrick Trostle (Corporate, 1994 – 1999) has joined Eversheds Sutherland as a partner.

95 Lee Wolosky (Corporate, 1995 – 1999) has joined the board of Clearview AI.

97 Aseel Rabie (Corporate, 1997 – 2000) has joined Debevoise & Plimpton LLP as counsel. **Sajid Ajmeri** (Corporate Securities, 1997 – 2005) has joined MiMedx as Deputy General Counsel.

98 Paul Cohen (Litigation, 1998 – 2005) was appointed as President at Silicon Valley Arbitration & Mediation Center. **Sarah Dodds-Brown** (Corporate M&A, 1998 – 2005) was selected as one of the 'Elite 100' by *Diversity Woman Magazine*.

99 Andrea Levine-Sanft (Personal Representation, 1999 – 2015) was promoted to Managing Director at Morgan Stanley.

00 Joseph Frank (Litigation, 2000 – 2003) has joined Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP as a partner. **Paul Seraganian** (Tax, 2000 – 2006) has joined Clifford Chance LLP as a partner.

01 Mikhail Ratner (Litigation, 2001 – 2004) has joined The Metro Group Inc. as General Counsel. **Nicholas Smolansky** (Corporate M&A, 2001 – 2010; 2018 – 2019) has joined Transfix as General Counsel & Corporate Secretary.

02 Linda Barrett (Executive Compensation, 2002 – 2004) has joined Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP as counsel.

04 Barbara Llanes (Litigation, 2004 – 2006, 2007 – 2010) has joined Gelber Schachter & Greenberg as a partner.

05 Aliza Balog (Litigation, 2005 – 2015) was promoted to Supervisor and Senior Counsel at New York City Law Department, Labor & Employment Law Division. **David Clunie** (Litigation, 2005 – 2007; 2008 – 2010) was appointed as a Member of the Council on Underserved Communities. **Yoni Ophir** (Corporate M&A, 2005 – 2008) has joined the board of Trafficpoint.

06 Allison Rekkali (Tax, 2006 – 2011; 2011 – 2013) has joined Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP as a central knowledge management lawyer. **Barry Kamar** (Litigation, 2006 – 2010) has joined Meland Budwick as a partner. **Brian Kohn** (Litigation, 2006 – 2011) has joined Seward & Kissel LLP as an associate. **Emily Carey** (Real Estate, 2006 – 2010; 2012 – 2013) has joined Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP as an associate. **Gayle Gerson** (Litigation, 2006

– 2012) has joined Jaspan Schlesinger LLP as a partner. **Leah Fleck** (Corporate Securities, 2006 – 2011) has joined Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP as of counsel.

07 George Kroup (Litigation, 2007 – 2018) was promoted to partner at JFB Legal. **Kevin Frankel** (Litigation, 2007 – 2011) has joined McGuireWoods LLP as a partner. **Mary Herrington** (Corporate, 2007 – 2010) has joined Yale Law School as Executive Director, Private Sector, Leadership Program. **Minjung Yu** (Corporate, 2007 – 2009) was promoted to Director, Products Law Group at Apple Inc. **Sabari Bagchi** (Corporate Securities, 2007 – 2010) was promoted to General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer at Zenyth Partners.

08 Michelle Jones Coles (Litigation, 2008 – 2010) recently launched her career as an author. Her debut novel, *Black Was the Ink*, a civil rights historical fiction YA novel, came out in November, 2021. **Andrew Klein** (Corporate Finance, 2008 – 2017) was promoted to partner at Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP. **Asad Kudiya** (Litigation, 2008 – 2013) was promoted to an Assistant General Counsel, Banking Regulation & Policy Group at Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve. **Caroline Barnard** (Entertainment, 2008 – 2017) was promoted to Senior Vice President, Business & Legal Affairs, Concord Theatricals at Concord Music. **Jane Schuster** (Litigation, 2008 – 2012) has joined the New Jersey Office of the State Comptroller as Senior Advisor, Police Accountability. **Rebecca Kinburn** (Litigation, 2008 – 2012) has joined Brach Eichler LLC as an associate. **Shima Osaka** (Corporate M&A, 2008 – 2015) was promoted to Country Manager, Audible, Japan at Amazon.

09 Aaron Wax (Corporate Finance, 2009 – 2015) was promoted to Associate General Counsel at Coherent Inc. **Adam Krotman** (Tax, 2009 – 2011) has joined the board of Prieto Battery. **Chris DeNicola** (Litigation, 2009 – 2010) was promoted to counsel at Dewey Pegno & Kramarsky LLP. **Jimmy Fanelly** (Corporate IP, 2009 – 2014) was promoted to Senior Vice President Legal Affairs, Corporate Legal at Paramount Pictures. **Judy Tomkins** (Corporate M&A, 2009 – 2013) has joined Las Vegas Sands Corporation as Vice President and Senior Associate General Counsel, Securities and Corporate Affairs. **Julia Milne** (Real Estate, 2009 – 2017) was promoted to partner at Mintz & Gold LLP. **Lindani Mthembu** (Corporate, 2009 – 2010) has joined White & Case LLP as a partner. **Noah Gold** (Corporate Securities, 2009 – 2012; 2013 – 2016) was promoted to Senior Vice President, Deputy General Counsel and Secretary at Petal. **Samson Enzer** (Litigation, 2009 – 2013) has joined Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP as counsel.

10 Adam Bernstein (Litigation, 2010 – 2021) has joined Regeneron Pharmaceuticals as Director, Dispute Resolution. **Alex Hyman** (Litigation, 2010 – 2021) will be joining the United States Department of Justice, Civil Division as a trial attorney in the national courts section. **Angela Shannon** (Litigation, 2010 – 2013; 2014 – 2016) was promoted to Counsel, Corporate Litigation at IBM. **Evan Kubota** (Litigation, 2010 – 2019) was promoted to partner at Bleichmar Fonti & Auld LLP. **Jacklyn Siegel** (Litigation, 2010 – 2013) was promoted to partner at Davis & Gilbert LLP. **Jonathan Truppman** (Litigation, 2010 – 2012; 2013 – 2015) has joined IL

MAKIAGE as Chief Legal Officer. **Paula Viola** (Litigation, 2010 – 2014) has joined Marc Jacobs as Senior Vice President & General Counsel. **Timothy Holland** (Litigation, 2010 – 2019) was promoted to of counsel at Katsky Korins LLP.

11 Chris Filburn (Litigation, 2011 – 2021) has joined the New York State Office of the Attorney General as an Assistant Attorney General in the Bureau of Consumer Frauds & Protection. His practice will focus on investigating fraudulent, deceptive and illegal trade practices. **Danielle Polebaum** (Litigation, 2011 – 2015) was promoted to Special Assistant to the Legal Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser at U.S. Department of State. **Edward Imperatore** (Litigation, 2011 – 2012) has joined Morrison & Foerster LLP as a partner. **Gordon Cruess** (Corporate M&A, 2011 – 2015) was promoted to Managing Director at General Atlantic. **Jared Evan Shure** (Corporate M&A, 2011 – 2014) was promoted to Senior Vice President, General Counsel at The Children's Place, Inc. **Kimberley Allen** (Litigation, 2011 – 2014) has joined Power the Vote as a Co-Founder. **Pamela Brylski** (Corporate Finance, 2011 – 2012) has joined BlackRock as Director of Institutional Client Business. **Robert Goldstein** (Corporate Securities, 2011 – 2015) has joined Social Capital LP as General Counsel. **Scott McKinney** (Corporate IP, 2011 – 2016) was promoted to partner at Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati.

12 Amanda Melvin (Corporate, 2012 – 2014) was promoted to Strategic Partner Lead, Apps & Commerce Partnerships at Google. **Jaclyn Rabin** (Corporate Funds, 2012 – 2014) has joined Thrive Capital as Chief Compliance Officer. **Jennifer Graff** (Corporate Funds,

2012 – 2018) has joined Ropes & Gray LLP as a partner. **Kevin Manz** (Corporate Securities, 2012 – 2017) was promoted to partner at King & Spalding LLP. **Maryam Naghavi** (Corporate M&A, 2012 – 2015) has joined Venable LLP as counsel. **Rachel Brennan** (Restructuring, 2012 – 2017) was promoted to of counsel at Sills Cummis & Gross P.C. **Sipoura Barzideh** (Litigation, 2012 – 2017) was promoted to Senior Counsel, Compliance and Ethics, Manager Investigations and Advisory Group at Zoom. **Tammy Wang** (Corporate Securities, 2012 – 2017) was promoted to Associate General Counsel, General Corporate at Eargo. **Winston Gu** (Corporate, 2012 – 2014) was promoted to partner at Cooley LLP.

13 Alexander Lawrence (Corporate M&A, 2013 – 2015) has joined PricewaterhouseCoopers as a Principal and Partner. **Chaim Theil** (Corporate M&A, 2013 – 2021) has joined Sidley Austin LLP as a partner. His practice will focus on M&A, Private Equity and Restructuring transactions. **David Kalani Lee** (Corporate, 2013 – 2019) was promoted to partner at Sidley Austin LLP. **David Rowe** (Litigation, 2013 – 2016) was promoted to counsel at Latham & Watkins LLP. **Meredith Borner** (Litigation, 2013 – 2021) has joined the CFTC as a Trial Attorney. **Robert McGuire** (Corporate M&A, 2013 – 2020) has joined Latham & Watkins LLP as counsel. **Salvatore Perrotto** (Corporate Securities, 2013 – 2018) was promoted to partner at Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP. **Yara Owayyed** (Corporate, 2013 – 2014) has joined YouLend as General Counsel.

14 Anand Sithian (Litigation, 2014 – 2021) has joined Crowell & Moring LLP in New York as counsel. His practice will focus primarily on anti-money laundering, economic sanctions,

cryptocurrency/virtual assets and white collar defense. **Eyal Peled** (Corporate, 2014 – 2018) was promoted to partner at McDermott Will & Emery. **Jing Bian** (Corporate, 2014 – 2016) was promoted to Chief Counsel at Energy Transfer. **Jordana Haviv** (Litigation, 2014 – 2017; 2018 – 2020) was promoted to partner at Roche Cyrulnik Freedman LLP. **Joseph Reich** (Executive Compensation, 2014 – 2015) was promoted to partner at Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP. **Kadeem Cooper** (Litigation, 2014 – 2016) has joined the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform as Deputy Chief Oversight Counsel.

15 Andrew Levy (Corporate Finance, 2015 – 2018) has joined Anchorage Digital as Associate General Counsel, Lending and Defi. **Arie Abramov** (Corporate M&A, 2015 – 2021) has joined EagleTree Capital as Associate General Counsel. His practice will focus on M&A and general corporate matters. **Beth Kerwin** (Personal Representation, 2015 – 2020) has joined Curtis, Mallet-Prevost, Colt & Mosle LLP as counsel. **Billy Freeland** (Litigation, 2015 – 2020) has joined Bernstein Litowitz Berger & Grossmann LLP as an associate. **Brian Bienenfeld** (Litigation, 2015 – 2019) has joined RPN Executive Search LLP as Managing Director. **Christopher Urruela Stauss** (Corporate Securities, 2015 – 2018) was promoted to partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP. **Jocelyn Pidoux** (Corporate, 2015 – 2019) has joined iCapital Network as Senior Vice President, International Product Development and Structuring. **Joseph Golding-Ochsner** (Corporate Finance, 2015 – 2021) has joined Celsius Network as Senior Corporate Counsel. His practice will largely focus on cryptocurrency

lending, business development, M&A and corporate governance. **Luca Barone** (Real Estate, 2015 – 2020) has joined Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP as an associate. **Marcy Blattner** (Litigation, 2015 – 2016) was promoted to partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP. **Ned Babbitt** (Litigation, 2015 – 2018, 2019 – 2021) has joined Thompson Hine LLP as a litigation associate in its Cincinnati, OH office. He is excited to be returning home with his wife and child. **Pembe Besingi** (Employee Benefits, 2015) has joined Crowell & Moring LLP as an associate. **Robert Agar** (Corporate M&A, 2015 – 2018) was promoted to Vice President at BMO Capital Markets. **Tony Vermeulen** (VLP – Litigation, 2015 – 2016) has joined PGMBM as a partner.

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Ben Symons (Litigation, 2016 – 2018; 2019 – 2022) has joined the U.S.

Department of Justice, Civil Division, Commercial Litigation Branch, Fraud Section as a Trial Attorney. His practice will focus primarily on investigations and enforcement actions pursuant to the False Claims Act. **Brandon Breslow** (Corporate, 2016 – 2018) has joined Houlihan Lokey as Vice President, Healthcare Investment Banking. **David Giller** (Litigation, 2016 – 2021) has joined Akin Gump as counsel in the New York Litigation Group. **Emily Weissler** (Litigation, 2016 – 2019) has joined Uber Technologies Inc. as Litigation Counsel. **Eric Eshaki** (Litigation, 2016 – 2019) has joined Eshaki Legal PLLC as Business Litigation Attorney. **Jabir Yusoff** (Executive Compensation, 2016 – 2019) was promoted to partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP. **Jonathan Kanter** (Litigation, 2016 – 2020) has joined the Department of Justice as Assistant Attorney General for the Antitrust Division. **Kate Amato**

(Corporate Finance, 2016 – 2021) has accepted a position in the Clinical and Counselling Psychology program at the University of Toronto. Her research will focus primarily on coping mechanisms for workplace-induced stress and anxiety as predictors of burnout and job satisfaction in the legal profession. **Max Nacheman** (Litigation, 2016 – 2019) has joined Elias Law Group as a political law associate. **Michelle Kallen** (Litigation, 2016 – 2018) has joined the U.S. House of Representatives as Special Litigation Counsel. **Sabrina Baum Low** (Litigation, 2016 – 2017; 2018 – 2021) has joined NOCD, Inc., as General Counsel. She will be responsible for overseeing and building the rapidly growing telehealth company's legal department. **Sarah Salvia** (Corporate, 2016 – 2021) has joined Reed Smith LLP as an associate in the firm's global corporate group. Her practice will focus primarily on M&A and private equity transactions in the entertainment and media industry. **Stanton Lawyer** (Litigation, 2016 – 2018, 2019 – 2020) has joined Lean Financial as Counsel.

17

Alexander Cavayero (Corporate M&A, 2017 – 2022) has joined

DLA Piper (U.S.) LLP as an associate in their Media, Sports and Entertainment Sector. His practice will focus primarily on Mergers & Acquisitions within this sector. **Apeksha Vora** (Litigation, 2017 – 2021) has joined the White Collar group at Arent Fox LLP in New York. **Borja Contreras Bernier** (VLP – Corporate, 2017 – 2018) has joined Allen & Overy LLP as counsel. **Joshua Gottesman** (Corporate, 2017 – 2021) has joined Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP as an associate. **Katie Smits** (Corporate M&A, 2017 – 2022) has joined Everly Health

as Senior Counsel, Corporate. Her practice will focus primarily on transactional matters and corporate governance. **Melika Hadziomerovic** (Litigation, 2017 – 2021) has joined the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission's Division of Enforcement in Miami, Florida as a General Attorney. **Moziano S. (Trey) Reliford III** (Litigation, 2017 – 2019) was promoted to partner at Neal & Harwell, PLC. **Nairuby Beckles** (Litigation, 2017 – 2020) has joined Emery Celli Brinckerhoff Abady Ward & Maazel LLP as an associate. **Nobuhiro Tanaka** (VLP – Litigation, 2017 – 2018) was promoted to partner at Nishimura & Asahi. **Randall W. Bryer** (Litigation, 2017 – 2022) has joined Cohen & Gresser LLP as an associate. His practice will focus primarily on general commercial litigation and white collar. **Sam Elliott** (Corporate M&A, 2017 – 2021) has joined Ropes & Gray LLP as an ESG/Sustainability associate. **Sofia Martos** (ESG, 2017 – 2021) has joined Kirkland & Ellis LLP as a partner in the ESG & Impact practice. **Will Kukin** (Litigation, 2017 – 2022) has joined Davis+Gilbert LLP as an associate. His practice will focus primarily on commercial litigation, employment litigation, intellectual property litigation and media and advertising disputes. **Vince Iacono** (Corporate M&A, 2017 – 2020) has joined Centerview as an Investment Banking and Strategic Advisory Associate. **Vincent-Pierre Fullerton** (Corporate, 2017 – 2019, 2020 – 2021) recently launched a direct trade coffee company called Who Is Coffee. Who Is Coffee tells the story behind every cup of coffee and supports farmers by paying them more than fairly for their beans. Coffee is available at www.whoiscoffee.com.

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Andrew Goldman (Corporate M&A, 2018 – 2021) has joined

Acquco as Associate Counsel, M&A. His practice will focus on the acquisition of e-commerce businesses. **Avery Burrell** (Litigation, 2018 – 2021) has joined Kings County District Attorney's Office as an Assistant District Attorney. **Caitlin Toto** (Restructuring, 2018 – 2019; 2020 – 2021) will be joining the NYC Campaign Finance Board as Associate Counsel. Her practice will focus on enforcing NYC's campaign finance laws and engaging in policy initiatives regarding the same. **Carl Rizzi** (Litigation, 2018 – 2021) has joined Cornell Law School as Director of Judicial Clerkships. **Destiny Howell** (Corporate Finance, 2018 – 2021) has joined the University of South Florida Creative Writing MFA program and has a middle grade novel, *The Starcade Score*, releasing in summer 2022 by Scholastic. **Federico Varni** (Corporate M&A, 2018 – 2022) has joined Gunderson Dettmer as an associate. His practice will focus primarily on venture capital and early stage M&A in Latin America. **Geoff Abbot** (Corporate, 2018 – 2020) has joined Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP as an associate. **Neal Paul Donnelly** (Restructuring, 2018 – 2021) has joined Soros Fund Management LLC as Assistant General Counsel. **Rachael Schuman** (Litigation, 2018 – 2021) has joined Kramer Levin as an associate in its Employment Department. Her practice will focus on employment litigation, advisory and transactional aspects of employment. **Tina Tu** (Corporate, 2018 – 2020) has joined BRYTER as U.S. Legal Counsel.

19

Alexandra (Allie) Cohen (Real Estate, 2019 – 2022) has joined Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP as an associate in the

real estate group located in New York. **Catherine Weiss** (Litigation, 2019 – 2020) has joined Walden Macht & Haran LLP as an associate. **Daniel Morales** (Litigation, 2019 – 2020) has joined Latham & Watkins as an associate. **Geanette Foster** (Litigation, 2019 – 2020) has joined NPR as Counsel. **Marissa Gluck** (Corporate, 2019 – 2021) has joined Latham & Watkins as a mid-level associate working in both the Structured Finance and Financial Institutions Practices. **Monique-Agnes Ladeji** (Litigation, 2019 – 2020) has joined the U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland as Judicial Law Clerk. **Neena Deb Sen** (Litigation, 2019 – 2021) has joined Frankfurt Kurnit Klein & Selz PC as a litigation associate. **Nicole Garbe** (Corporate IP, 2019 – 2021) has joined Schreck Rose Dapello Adams Berlin & Dunham LLP as an associate. Her practice will focus primarily on entertainment law and talent representation in the film, TV and theater industries. **Patricia Walsh** (Restructuring, 2019 – 2021) has joined the Chicago office of Kirkland & Ellis LLP as an associate in the Restructuring Group. **Ryan Baker** (Corporate M&A, 2019 – 2021) has joined Latham & Watkins' Chicago office in the M&A group. **Saish Setty** (Corporate Finance, 2019 – 2021) has joined Parallaxes Capital as General Counsel. **Tirsa Kapp** (VLP – Corporate, 2019 – 2020) has joined Invesco EMEA as Legal Counsel. **William (Liam) Hancock** (Litigation, 2019 – 2021) has joined Perkins Coie LLP as an associate in the Political Law Group. Liam's practice will focus on election law, campaign finance, redistricting and voting rights. **Zach Anderson** (Corporate Finance, 2019 – 2021) has joined Latham & Watkins LLP as an associate in the Private Equity Finance Group in the Washington D.C. office. **Zach Blumenfeld** (Corporate IP,

2019 – 2022) has joined Alter, Kendrick & Baron LLP as a music transactions and copyright associate. His practice will focus primarily on catalog acquisitions.

20

Emma Janger (Litigation, 2020 – 2021) has taken a clerkship with the Honorable

Patrick E. Higginbotham on the Fifth Circuit in San Antonio, Texas. **Kuan-Ting Chen** (Executive Compensation, 2020 – 2022) has joined Winston & Strawn LLP as an associate in M&A. **Sabino Casella** (Corporate, 2020 – 2021) has joined Mastercard as Senior Counsel for the company's Data & Services team.

21

Mo Light (Litigation, 2021) has joined the chambers of Judge Jia Cobb

(DDC) and will join Judge Joe Greenaway (3rd Circuit) in September, 2022. His main interests are electoral politics and everything Jersey.

Career Corner

New Alumni Resources

CareerConnect Enhanced Job Search Feature

We are pleased to introduce a new feature in CareerConnect, the firm's curated job board available to alumni. We invite you to use the new profile feature to indicate whether or not you are actively looking for new roles to enable us to identify and share relevant opportunities directly. This information will only be shared internally within the firm. The setting can be found on the [Alumni Portal](#) on the "Update Profile" tab.

New Benefit: Confidential Career Coaching

Alumni will now have access to confidential, one-on-one career coaching with an external executive coach. This new benefit, organized in partnership with Career Development, includes up to four sessions annually per alum. Below are some coaching topic examples:

- Management skills, including delegation, supervision (individuals/teams), feedback and time management
- Working strategies and best practices for remote and in-person employees
- Career/life strategy development (including resume assistance and mock interviews)
- Self-assessment and goal-setting
- Retirement and post-practice planning

New Resource: Alumni CLE Learning Portal

We are pleased to announce our new on-demand Alumni CLE Learning Portal, created in partnership with the Professional Development & Training Department. You may now access on-demand presentations by our partners on selected current industry topics and receive New York CLE credit.

For assistance accessing your Alumni Portal account, to set up a coaching session or to create an Alumni CLE Learning Portal account, please email alumni@paulweiss.com.



Happy Anniversary Paul, Weiss San Francisco!

Did you know that the San Francisco office recently celebrated their one-year anniversary? The new office has already made a splash in the legal market, securing high-impact litigation wins, inking transformational private equity deals and winning numerous recognitions.

Behind the growth of the office, now numbering 16 lawyers, are seven prominent partners with deep ties to the Northern California business and legal community. The office's founding partners – litigators Melinda Haag, Walter Brown, Randy Luskey and Meredith Dearborn and private equity attorney Jeremy Veit – were joined by private equity partner Austin Pollet and litigation partner Joshua Hill.

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