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Covington London

An International Law Firm

Covington & Burling LLP is a leading international law firm that is known for its industry practices, creativity, and ability to address the most challenging transactions, advisory assignments, and contentious matters.

More than 800 lawyers practice from Covington's offices in Beijing, Brussels, London, New York, San Diego, San Francisco, Silicon Valley, and Washington. From those offices, we represent some of the world's most sophisticated clients in a diverse range of fields to the highest professional standards. The firm's corporate, litigation, and regulatory lawyers are involved in many issues shaping the world's economy, from advising on the biggest private equity buy-out to creating a framework for copyright legislation in the EU. What distinguishes Covington from many City and US firms is that it has built on the deep regulatory and policy foundations that distinguish our Washington legal practice. We are particularly known for our expertise in cutting-edge and highly regulated fields, including life sciences, internet and information technology, software and communications, sports, energy, and financial institutions, and we represent many household names in those fields.

Covington London

Covington London is dynamic and growing. We opened our London office in 1988 and now offer services to clients over a wide range of practice areas. Global names for which the London office acts include Microsoft, the Business Software Alliance, Giorgio Armani, Bacardi, Procter & Gamble, Merck, GlaxoSmithKline, Piper Jaffrey, Indian Energy, and the British Horseracing Authority.

We emphasise teamwork, collegiality and a non-hierarchical structure, both within the office and with our colleagues in other offices. We benefit from the supportive atmosphere and team spirit often associated with smaller firms and have access to the resources and support necessary to service an international law firm. These attributes, combined with diverse and challenging work, enable us to provide excellent training and the prospect of an exciting and fulfilling career. We have successfully attracted graduates and qualified lawyers who share our passion for the practice of law and our commitment to the highest ethical and professional standards. Our future depends on the quality and energy of those who join us.

London Practice Groups

Covington London's principal practice groups are corporate, dispute resolution, life sciences, and technology and media. The demarcation between these areas is not rigid and lawyers frequently work across several practice groups. In particular, lawyers in our corporate and dispute resolution groups often draw on Covington's vast regulatory expertise in areas such

as life sciences, communications, and new technologies. At a firm level, practice and industry groups work closely together across all offices.

CORPORATE

Lawyers within our London corporate practice work on a broad variety of matters, including mergers and acquisitions, capital markets transactions, private equity and venture capital investments, finance, and licensing and other strategic alliances. In addition, our corporate group includes lawyers who focus on private equity fund transactions and formations, tax, financial services regulation, and employment matters. Most of our corporate work is international in nature. Our clients include large multinational corporations, financial institutions, private equity groups, start-up and midsize private and public companies, and entrepreneurs.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Lawyers in our dispute resolution practice enjoy a broad practice. They are experienced in disputes involving complex corporate transactions and commercial contracts, product liability defence work, claims on behalf of corporate policyholders for wrongful denials of insurance coverage, and major internal investigations and compliance work involving multinational corporations. We represent clients before the English Courts and other tribunals as well as act as coordinating counsel in multi-jurisdictional litigation. In addition, our London dispute resolution team handles international arbitrations in London and elsewhere, as well as alternative dispute resolution procedures.

LIFE SCIENCES

Lawyers in our life sciences practice are amongst the leading lawyers in the world in life sciences regulation and disputes and transactions affecting the industry. They advise companies and trade associations, including many of the major multinational pharmaceutical manufacturers, biotechnology companies, and producers of medical devices, cosmetics, foods, food packaging, specialty chemicals, and consumer products. The advice covers a wide range of regulatory, transactional and contentious matters under English and European law, and the group has been heavily involved in the major regulatory issues in recent years.

TECHNOLOGY AND MEDIA

Our technology and media lawyers advise clients on copyright, patents, trademarks, and other proprietary information and technology issues. They are active in a wide range of European regulatory issues and also advise clients and advocate their positions on legislative and regulatory matters before the European Parliament, the European Commission, and the national legislatures and ministries. In addition, lawyers in our technology and media group advise clients on IP

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enforcement and multi-jurisdictional data protection issues. Our clients include some of the world's leading software, pharmaceutical and branded goods companies.

Experienced Lawyers

As a growing office, it is sometimes necessary to recruit lawyers at various career levels. In doing so, we look for lawyers who have a record of academic excellence and personal accomplishment; who have flourished in a challenging professional environment; who are eager to learn, work and take initiative; who share our values of excellence and collegiality; and who are excited about the prospect of joining Covington. We value the skills, knowledge, expertise, and relationships that qualified lawyers with previous work experience bring to Covington. At the same time, we are sensitive to the challenges involved in making a transition to a new law firm, and we therefore invest considerable time and resources to facilitate a lateral lawyer's integration into the firm.

LAWYER SUPPORT AND INTEGRATION

Covington London has a collegial atmosphere reflecting a common bond of mutual respect and shared values. Many matters are staffed by only two or three lawyers, and associates have ample opportunities to work directly with partners. Associates are encouraged to assume as much responsibility as possible, commensurate with their experience and training.

Most of our assignments cut across a number of practice areas and require the collaboration of lawyers in multiple offices. For these reasons, and to encourage a "single firm" ethos, our lawyers have many opportunities to work with lawyers in other practice groups and visit lawyers in our other offices. We have practice group retreats on a regular basis that bring together in one city all of the lawyers in the group from each of our offices. In addition, we have a firm-wide "new associate" retreat each year and other opportunities in which lawyers from our various offices meet, discuss their practices and get to know one another.

A BRIEF SAMPLING OF RECENT LONDON OFFICE REPRESENTATIONS INCLUDES:

- Axis-Shield plc on the £235 million all cash public takeover from Alere, Inc., a US company listed on the New York Stock Exchange.
- Piper Jaffray, as the sole financial advisor, sponsor, underwriter, and broker to Vernalis plc, the London main market listed pharmaceutical company, on its £24 million placing and open offer in 2009 and subsequent £30 million placing and open offer in 2010.
- SR One (GlaxoSmithKline's venture capital affiliate) as lead investor in a €15 million financing of f-star GmbH, a biopharmaceutical company developing a new generation of antibody based products using its Modular Antibody Technology platform.
- Goodrich Corporation, Exxon Mobil Corporation, Textron, Inc., and other policyholder creditors in opposition of a solvent scheme of arrangement before the Scottish courts.
- Privacy International, the privacy-rights NGO, in connection with emerging EU and other privacy and data retention laws (pro bono).
- For the Business Software Alliance, coordinating thousands of civil, administrative, and criminal copyright enforcement actions throughout the world, generating millions of dollars in settlements, and preventing tens of thousands of pirated copies from reaching the market.
- Johnson & Johnson in the acquisition by its subsidiary Centocor Ortho Biotech Inc. of UK-based drug discovery company RespiVert.
- World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) on compliance with European data privacy laws in connection with its global administration and management of athlete doping procedures.
- Solar Century Holdings Limited, the UK's leading photovoltaic supplier, on a Series B funding round by various venture capital investors and as lead corporate counsel following our involvement in the VantagePoint Venture Partners investment.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

To retain the talented lawyers we recruit, we work hard to provide them with the resources, experience, and support necessary to succeed. Some of the initiatives that we have undertaken in furtherance of these goals include a firm-wide Associate Advisory Committee, which includes two London office representatives, a “Buddy” programme for incoming associate mentoring, a “Women’s Forum” that encourages open discussion of issues relevant to the careers of our women colleagues, a formal mentoring programme for associates who have been with the firm for at least one year, and London specific and firm-wide training programmes. There are also opportunities for associates to spend time on client premises on secondment.

ALTERNATIVE WORK SCHEDULES

Covington has a long history of actively supporting alternative work schedules. We are committed to excellence in the practice of law, and we are also committed to the proposition that our lawyers should enjoy fulfilling, enriching lives outside of practice. For some, this balance may involve an alternative work schedule that permits a reduced workload.

PRO BONO

Covington’s London office shares the firm’s commitment to pro bono work. Associates in our London office are encouraged to accept pro bono representations and to give their pro bono clients the same attention and commitment as any other Covington client receives.

CONTACT

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Awards and Honours

Chambers UK (2011)

Recognised in 14 categories

Legal 500 UK (2010)

Recognised in 16 categories

PLC — Which Law Firm? England (2011)

Recognised in 13 categories

LawCareers.Net Training & Recruitment Awards (2011)

Nominated Best Recruiter, US Firm in the City

Intellectual Property Magazine Awards (2010)

“Sports, Media and Entertainment Team of the Year”

PLC Cross-Border Super League (2005-2010)

Ranked 1st in the Life Sciences Industry Super League

Ranked 1st in the Life Sciences Regulatory Super League

Chambers Asia (2009-2011)

India — Overseas Counsel — Corporate & Finance

Legal 500 Asia-Pacific (2008-2011)

India — Foreign Firms

Ranked by *The Lawyer* as one of the “Top 30 International Firms” (2009-2011)

Ranked by *The Lawyer* as one of the top 50 global litigation practices (2009-2010)

GAR30 2011

Ranked among the world’s top 30 international arbitration practices

***The American Lawyer* — “Pro Bono Report” (2011)**

Ranked 1st in the US for pro bono work

***The American Lawyer* — “The A-List” (2011)**

Ranked in this listing of 20 elite US law firms based on financial performance, pro bono activity, associate satisfaction, and diversity

