Covington Snags Southern NY's Top Public Corruption Atty

By Martin O'Sullivan

Law360, New York (June 7, 2016, 7:52 PM ET) --

New York’s top federal prosecutor for public corruption, who oversaw the successful cases against former state Senate leader Dean Skelos and former state Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver, will join Covington & Burling’s white collar defense and investigations practice, the firm said Tuesday.

Arlo Devlin-Brown will join the Covington & Burling’s New York office as partner in August, fresh off the heels of a two-year stint as chief of the Public Corruption Unit in the U.S. Attorney’s Office for New York’s Southern District, the firm said. Devlin-Brown also brings four years of experience working on the office’s Securities and Commodities Fraud Unit, where he worked on the team that indicted SAC Capital on insider trading charges leading to a landmark $1.2 billion settlement.

“I’m very pleased to join Covington’s exceptional white collar practice,” Devlin-Brown said in a statement sent to Law360 on Tuesday.

Devlin-Brown was appointed as head of the Southern District’s Public Corruption Unit in March 2014 and has since supervised multiple high-profile cases against public officials, including those of Silver and Skelos. In May, Silver received 12 years in prison for allegedly orchestrating a $5 million kickback and laundering scheme, and Skelos received a five-year prison sentence on unrelated extortion and bribery charges.

Devlin-Brown also oversaw the prosecution against John Ashe, the former president of the United Nations General Assembly who is still fighting allegations that he orchestrated a $1.3 million bribery scheme.

Devlin-Brown worked for the Southern District’s Securities and Commodities Fraud Unit for four years prior to heading its public corruption efforts. In addition to the criminal indictment against SAC Capital, he worked on the team that convicted former SAC Capital trader Mathew Martoma on charges that he allegedly orchestrated a $275 million insider trading scheme.

Devlin-Brown also helped investigate JPMorgan Chase & Co. for Bank Secrecy Act violations in connection with its failure to warn authorities about Bernard Madoff’s Ponzi scheme, according to a release from the U.S. Attorney’s Office. The bank in January 2014 settled for $1.7 billion.
Devlin-Brown follows the footsteps of former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, who in July 2015 rejoined Covington & Burling in Washington after serving as the country’s top law enforcement official for six years.

Devlin-Brown received his law degree from Harvard Law School in 1999 and his undergraduate degree in political science from Columbia University in 1995.

After law school, Devlin-Brown served as a law clerk to Judge Kermit Lipez at the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit for about a year.

Devlin-Brown then joined WilmerHale as associate in 2000, where he remained until moving to the U.S. Attorney’s Office in 2005.

--Additional reporting by Max Stendah. Editing by Patricia K. Cole.