

Ex-Copyright Office GC Joins Covington In NY

By Kelly Knaub

Law360, New York (February 7, 2017, 1:21 PM EST) --Covington & Burling LLP said Monday that it has strengthened its intellectual property rights and media communication practices in its New York office with the addition of the former general counsel of the U.S. Copyright Office.

Jacqueline C. Charlesworth, who joined the firm as of counsel on Feb. 1, told Law360 on Tuesday that she was drawn to Covington because of its outstanding legal talent and highly collaborative culture.

"And, even though I am based in New York, I will have the benefit of Covington's offices in Los Angeles and Washington, where there is also a lot of copyright-related activity," she added.

Charlesworth said her practice will focus on copyright and related IP issues, including litigation and licensing matters. She anticipates serving clients from copyright-intensive industries such as music, film, television and software, as well as clients who are users of copyrighted works, she said.

As former general counsel of the Copyright Office, Charlesworth oversaw a broad range of litigation, legislative, regulatory and policy matters, including the office's participation in cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, rulemaking proceedings under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and other provisions, and legal review of Copyright Royalty Board decisions, among other things, according to the firm. Her primary responsibility at the agency was interpreting the U.S. Copyright Act, it said.

In addition, Charlesworth provided counsel to Congress on legislation related to copyright matters and also on policy concerns.

Prior to her role at the Copyright Office, Charlesworth was in private practice at Morrison & Foerster LLP and Pryor Cashman LLP where she handled a wide range of litigation, transactional and regulatory matters, including cases involving rights issues, fair use and the Digital Millennium Copyright Act; ratesetting litigation and settlements before the Copyright Royalty Board; and licensing agreements with online music services and others, among other matters.

She also previously served as general counsel and senior vice president of the National Music Publishers' Association and as general counsel and senior vice president of music licensing organization The Harry Fox Agency.



Jacqueline C.
Charlesworth

“Jacqueline’s experience includes a rare combination of litigation, transactional and policy work in both public service and private practice,” Simon J. Frankel, co-chair of the firm’s intellectual property rights practice group, said in a statement. “At a time of significant technological developments and potential revisions to the Copyright Act, we believe Jacqueline’s deep expertise will enhance our ability to serve a wide range of clients dealing with copyright and related intellectual property issues.”

Charlesworth earned her undergraduate degree from Brown University and her law degree from Yale Law School.

--Editing by Emily Kokoll.

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