

Benesch's Chicago Office Keeps Growing with Four New Attorneys

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As Benesch continues to add to its roster of top-notch legal talent, the firm is pleased to announce that four new attorneys—Michael E. Bloom, Lowell D. Jacobson, Suzanne M. Alton de Eraso, and Kate Watson Moss—have joined the firm's Chicago office.

"We are pleased to add these four outstanding attorneys to the firm," said Gregg Eisenberg, Benesch's Managing Partner. "Adding this depth of talent to our litigation and intellectual property practices positions us to continue meeting our clients' needs in these strategic areas of work and to grow the firm as a provider of top-notch legal services for a full range of businesses and industries."

Bloom and Jacobson join the firm as Of Counsel. Alton de Eraso and Watson Moss join as associates. These new hires reflect continued momentum for Benesch, which has been growing aggressively through lateral hires as part of a strategic plan launched by Eisenberg in 2015.

In all, more than 60 attorneys have joined the firm in the last 18 months, which has also seen the opening of a Chicago office and the expansion of practices including class action litigation, intellectual property litigation and labor and employment. Since making its debut on the AmLaw 200 list in 2016, the firm has advanced 15 places and is currently ranked at number 180.

Bloom joins the firm as Of Counsel in the Litigation Practice Group. He represents clients operating in a variety of industries, including private equity funds and telecommunications providers. Among other high-stakes matters, he has represented clients in class actions with over \$1 billion in controversy, and has also represented clients in lawsuits involving allegations of securities fraud, violations of the RICO Act, and breaches of fiduciary duties. In addition, Bloom has experience representing clients in investigations brought by the United States Securities & Exchange Commission and in internal corporate investigations.

He graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Illinois College of Law in 2010 and graduated with honors from the University of Illinois College of Business in 2006.

Jacobson joins the firm as Of Counsel in the Intellectual Property Litigation Group. He uses his electrical engineering background to assist clients in achieving favorable outcomes to complex intellectual property disputes. Jacobson is a registered patent attorney whose practice focuses on litigating patent infringement claims, in a wide variety of technological fields, but primarily in the electrical arts.

In the past, he has defended a Fortune 50 telecommunications company in a patent infringement suit before the International Trade Commission, for which the trial team won "Case of the Year" in Intellectual Property from Legal Media Group in September 2018.

Jacobson graduated from Antonin Scalia Law School at George Mason University in 2007, where he participated in the Intellectual Property specialty track program. He received a B.A. in Physics & History from Williams College, and a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Columbia University, *cum laude*, both in 2004.

Alton de Eraso is an associate in Benesch's Litigation Practice Group. She focuses her practice on complex commercial matters, defending her clients against fraud, false advertising, unfair competition, copyright and trademark infringement, breach of contract, defamation, and a variety of TCPA consumer class action claims in both state and federal courts.

Alton de Eraso graduated *cum laude* from Northwestern Pritzker School of Law in 2014, where she was president of both the Latino Students Association and the Diversity Coalition. She received her M.S. from DePaul University in 2010 and her B.A. from Northern Illinois University in 2005.

Watson Moss is a litigation associate, and concentrates her practice on complex commercial litigation, class action litigation, securities litigation, and corporate internal investigations. She has been involved in litigation in state and federal courts throughout the United States and has represented Fortune 500 companies in confidential internal investigations.

In the past, she has successfully argued a motion in federal court on behalf of a multinational computer technology company, resulting in the effective termination of a consumer class action against that company. She also represented the plaintiff in the largest defamation case in U.S. history, a trial and settlement that received national attention in mainstream, legal, and industry press.

Watson Moss graduated *summa cum laude* from DePaul University College of Law in 2015, where she was Editor in Chief of the DePaul Law Review. She graduated from Northwestern University in 2011.

Erik Connolly, Vice Chair of the Litigation Department and Member of the Executive Committee, who also recently joined Benesch, commented, "Benesch is working hard to recruit the top legal talent in the area and across the country. We are building the team that our clients seek and that represents the diversity in backgrounds and thought they demand. We are excited to welcome these attorneys to this fast-growing office and look forward to what is to come."