

Morgan Lewis Adds 4 Nonprofit And Philanthropy Attys In NY

By **Emily Lever**

Law360 (March 23, 2021, 3:59 PM EDT) -- Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP has snagged four lawyers from Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler LLP's philanthropic and nonprofit team, Morgan Lewis has confirmed.

Partners Megan Bell and Tomer Inbar, of counsel Lauren Simpson and associate Casey Oetgen join Morgan Lewis' current eight-lawyer tax-exempt organizations practice in New York at a time when nonprofits and charities have multiplied their activities because of the pandemic and resulting economic crisis and are increasingly collaborating with for-profit companies.

"We know this team will quickly jump into our ongoing mission of helping our for-profit and not-for-profit clients alike expand their philanthropic endeavors in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic," Morgan Lewis Chair Jami McKeon said in a statement Monday. "Since our founding nearly 150 years ago, Morgan Lewis has represented philanthropists and not-for-profit clients as they navigate every major legal development, and we are proud to be recognized leaders in this important area."

Inbar, who worked at Morgan Lewis as an associate and then a partner from 1995 to 2009, is returning to his first firm. He specializes in representing nonprofit clients including foundations and charities, counseling them on corporate structure, compliance, transactions, capital aggregation structures and creating for-profit affiliates. He also helps advise for-profits that deal with nonprofits.

Bell, who will be a co-leader in Morgan Lewis' corporate social responsibility practice, specializes in advising philanthropic organizations as well as trade and agricultural associations. She focuses on corporate governance, internal and regulatory investigations, and lobbying, and like Inbar she advises for-profit companies in their dealings with nonprofits.

"Over the past few years, the philanthropic sector has significantly expanded efforts to address some of the most intractable issues faced by this country and the world, often doing so in collaboration with for-profit partners," nonprofit entities practice leader Celia Roady said in a statement. "Having an experienced team committed to finding new and creative pathways to solving problems, which is further strengthened by Tomer, Megan, Lauren, and Casey, is something our clients frequently tell us is invaluable."



Megan Bell



Tomer Inbar

Simpson started at Morgan Lewis in 2011 as an associate and then of counsel. She was previously an associate at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP.

Oetgen, who started at Patterson Belknap in 2018, is a former vice president of business and legal affairs at the Entertainment Industry Foundation.

--Editing by Rich Mills.

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