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Morgan Lewis Adds NY Private Funds Atty From Schulte Roth

By Tracey Read

Law360 (June 17, 2024, 12:33 PM EDT) -- Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP said Monday that it is strengthening its global private investment funds practice by hiring a partner from Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP.

Leonora Shalet is based in New York and will continue her focus on advising investment funds and investment advisers on fund structuring, formation and ongoing operational and compliance needs.

In an email to Law360 Pulse, Shalet said she's excited to work alongside her new colleagues and be part of a deep bench of talent.

"Morgan Lewis has a stellar reputation in the funds and investment management space, and more significantly, it is an internationally recognized practice that provides a number of synergies with the work I handle for my clients both in the newest fund structures to more traditional funds," she said.

Shalet's investment management practice includes U.S. and offshore credit funds, private equity funds, growth equity funds, hedge funds, perpetual funds, hybrid funds, funds-of-funds and managed accounts. She also counsels clients on general securities laws and regulatory matters.

Shalet said she hopes to help further grow Morgan Lewis' already premier investment management practice.

"With the exponential boom we're seeing in private investment funds sector, Morgan Lewis has made a strong commitment in continuing to grow out its capabilities and talent in order to continue providing clients with first-rate service on their complex and innovative business objectives," she said.

Shalet was a special counsel at Schulte Roth for over 12 years, from 2007 to 2020, according to her LinkedIn profile. She then joined Morrison Foerster LLP as a private funds group partner for about two years, before heading back to Schulte Roth in May 2022.

She is also a former international corporate associate at Curtis Mallet-Prevost Colt & Mosle LLP in New York and London. Shalet is fluent in French and English and is licensed in New York as well as England and Wales, the firm said.

"Whether the newest fund structures like hybrid funds or more traditional private equity and hedge



Leonora Shalet

funds, Leonora's skillset will be a great addition in areas where we're seeing an uptick in client activity," Timothy Levin, leader of the firm's investment management practice, said in a statement.

Levin added that Shalet's continuation fund formation experience will boost the firm's client offerings in its secondaries practice.

Earlier this year, the firm hired three former Perkins Coie LLP attorneys to its 170-lawyer investment management team. Todd P. Zerega, Mark F. Parise and Betselot A. Zeleke joined Morgan Lewis as partners in March.

Zerega — the former co-chair of Perkins Coie's investment management practice — is based in the firm's Pittsburgh office. Parise works in its Hartford, Connecticut, office, and Zeleke is based in Washington, D.C.

"Adding Leonora in New York is another demonstration of our commitment to guiding our clients in this sector and helping them achieve their business goals," firm chair Jami McKeon said in a statement.

--Additional reporting by Rose Krebs. Editing by Alyssa Miller.

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