

Pillsbury Cyber Leader Jumps To Crowell & Moring

By **Matt Perez**

Law360 (February 6, 2024, 2:03 PM EST) -- Crowell & Moring announced on Tuesday the hiring of a cybersecurity lead at Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP as a partner overseeing the firm's digital law practice in Europe.

Rafi Azim-Khan joins Crowell & Moring in both its London and San Francisco offices. He previously served as co-head of Pillsbury's global privacy and cybersecurity practice and led its European privacy and marketing law practices.



Rafi Azim-Khan

"We are thrilled to welcome Rafi to the firm," Philip T. Inghima, chair of Crowell & Moring, said in a statement on Tuesday. "Rafi is a genuine thought leader with rare trans-Atlantic and global experience in areas of increasing, and often critical, importance to our clients. His arrival deepens our ability to advise clients navigating rapidly increasing regulator and competitor challenge risks as they embrace new technologies or roll out new products or services."

In his practice, Azim-Khan advises clients on matters related to cybersecurity, data privacy, artificial intelligence, intellectual property, e-commerce and marketing. His previous clients include General Electric, Ford, Motorola, Coca-Cola, Shell, British Airways, Energizer and Starbucks.

His recent work includes handling projects involving autonomous vehicles, augmented reality, artificial intelligence regulations and cross-border data laws.

"Rafi is a global powerhouse who brings notable experience in the AI, privacy and cybersecurity spaces, as well as in advertising, IP protection and e-commerce," said Jeffrey Poston, co-chair of Crowell's privacy and cybersecurity group. "He immediately adds breadth and experience to our group at a time of increasing regulation of our clients in Europe as well as the United States."

Prior to his time at Pillsbury, Azim-Khan served as a partner at both Gowling WLG and McDermott Will & Emery. He earned his law degree from Queen Mary University of London.

"Crowell has a premier privacy and cybersecurity practice and is well positioned to advise clients on the unprecedented onslaught of new digital, AI and consumer laws around the world, but particularly in the U.K." and European Union, Azim-Khan said in the announcement. "I look forward to helping grow the global reach of the firm by collaborating across borders, continents and offices."

Crowell & Moring announced last month it hired Ruta Kalvaitis Skučas from K&L Gates LLP and Richard

Holbrook from Paradigm, a financial services company that works with crypto derivatives traders. The firm also announced this year that Mark Fenoughty would take over as the firm's chief financial officer.

Crowell & Moring on Tuesday added that, over the past five years, the firm has added more than 175 attorneys in the U.S., Europe, Asia, the Middle East and North Africa.

--Additional reporting by Andrea Keckley and Jack Rodgers. Editing by Robert Rudinger.

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