



ALUMNI

Crowell Connect

2025 Fall Issue

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Welcome to Our Fall Issue!

In this issue, we share some exciting news about growth in our health care practice and our expansion into Dallas. We also have a great alumni Q&A, a recap of our annual pro bono awards ceremony, highlights from a recent alumni event in Chicago, and more.

Should you have any suggestions for future content or ideas for engaging with our alumni network, please don't hesitate to drop us a line at alumni@crowell.com.



Phil Inglima
Chair, Management Board



Chahira Solh
Chair, Executive Committee

FIRM HIGHLIGHTS

Crowell Welcomes Leading Health Care Litigation Team

In August, we were thrilled to welcome a group of 16 highly respected health care litigation partners, led by accomplished trial attorney Martin J. Bishop, along with their talented team of over 60 lawyers and professionals. This strategic combination makes our health care practice one of the largest in the country and significantly enhances our ability to serve clients facing unprecedented changes across the industry.

Our new colleagues bring extensive experience in managed care law, having litigated cases in all 50 states and advised leading managed care companies on complex issues. Their experience spans critical areas such as the No Surprises Act, gender-affirming care, ERISA, Medicare Advantage, Medicaid Managed Care, and post-Dobbs insurance coverage. The group joins Crowell from Reed Smith, where Marty Bishop was a member of the executive committee.

With this addition, our health care group now includes more than 100 lawyers representing clients such as top health insurers, health care providers, academic medical centers, digital health companies, and innovative manufacturers. We are also proud to announce the opening of a new office in Dallas.

This expansion of our national footprint follows our recent combination with Boston-based life sciences firm Faber Daeufer & Itrato, which strengthened our transactional, regulatory, intellectual property, and litigation capabilities for clients in the life sciences ecosystem.

For more information about the combination, click [here](#).



Troy Barsky, Marty Bishop, Phil Inglima

“Marty Bishop and his preeminent team are a natural fit for Crowell and add valuable experience, industry knowledge, and further bench strength to our top-ranked health care practice.”

—Philip T. Inglima, chair of Crowell & Moring’s management board

“This combination enables us to provide clients with an even deeper health care litigation bench while leveraging critical adjacent capabilities that will significantly benefit clients as they make business-critical decisions in a rapidly evolving health care landscape.”

—Martin J. Bishop, co-chair of Crowell’s Health Care Group

“The addition of Marty and his team creates a true ‘one-stop shop’ for clients and bolsters our ability to provide comprehensive counsel on cutting-edge health care issues.”

—Troy Barsky, co-chair of Crowell’s Health Care Group

By the Numbers

52 lawyers

14 business professionals

Enhanced presence in Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C.

Newly established presence in Dallas

FIRM HIGHLIGHTS

London Office Hosts Client Dinner With Sir Jeremy Hunt

The London office hosted over 80 guests at its annual client summer dinner at the historic Trinity House in London in June. As part of the event, London managing partner Robert Weekes held an engaging conversation with The Rt Hon Sir Jeremy Hunt MP.

Sir Jeremy Hunt held senior roles under four British prime ministers starting in 2010, including chancellor of the exchequer and foreign secretary. He also played a pivotal role in delivering the 2012 London Olympic Games as minister for culture, Olympics, media, and sport. As the longest-serving health secretary in British history, Jeremy implemented significant reforms, focusing on patient safety and transforming the NHS into a seven-day service.

Robert's conversation with Sir Jeremy offered thoughtful perspectives on the UK and global economic outlook, as well as reflections on leadership and public service.

Sir Jeremy's insights brought immense value to the discussion, sparking lively debate and excellent questions from the audience. It was an outstanding event and we learned a lot from Sir Jeremy's experience and candor.



George Bailey Public Service Awards

In late June, we celebrated our 26th annual Public Service Awards Ceremony, proudly named for George Bailey, the beloved hero of the classic film *It's a Wonderful Life*. George Bailey's iconic example of compassion and community spirit perfectly reflects the commitment of our Crowell colleagues who have devoted their time and talents to pro bono service throughout the year.

Management Board Chair **Phil Inglima** opened the evening with warm welcome remarks to set the tone for a celebration of service. Partner and Public Service Committee Co-Chair **Keith Harrison** highlighted the central role of pro bono work in our firm's values, inspiring us all to continue making a meaningful difference.

Our dedicated pro bono partners, **Susie Hoffman** and **Tiana Russell**, had the honor of presenting the awards, recognizing the outstanding contributions of this year's nominees. Executive Committee Chair **Chahira Solh** concluded the ceremony by congratulating all honorees and encouraging everyone to stay engaged in pro bono initiatives.

We are deeply proud of all the nominees and grateful for the lasting impact they have made on our communities through their pro bono efforts. Their dedication embodies the spirit of George Bailey and the values we cherish at Crowell.

- Partners: **Scott Winkelman** (DC); **David Lindner** (Chicago)
- Counsel: **Nicholas Dowd** (Denver); **Judy He** (Chicago)
- Associates: **Matt Menezes** (SF); **Isabella Ordorica** (OC)
- International Attorneys: **Charles Wakiwaka** (London); **Miriam Karam** (London)
- Senior Counsel: **Andrew Bagley** (DC); **Rachel Stevens** (NY)
- Practice Support: **Keith Kaider** (DC); **Sangeeta Joshi** (DC)
- Staff: **Awaly Diallo** (DC); **Tricia Wyse** (DC)
- It's a Wonderful Lifetime Achievement Award: **Cliff Zatz** (DC); **Ira Saxe** (NY); **Harry Cohen** (NY)

FIRM HIGHLIGHTS

Firm Hosts Affinity Group Meeting in Washington, D.C.

In June, more than 100 members from our affinity groups convened in Washington, D.C. for a two-day event filled with educational sessions, guest speakers, and networking opportunities. The event began with a welcome reception on the rooftop of the Hotel Washington, providing attendees with stunning city views.

The theme, “Meeting the Moment,” was a key focus of the event’s programming, which included an engaging session on best practices for working with clients, a fireside chat with award-winning author and leadership speaker Ritu Bhasin, and a discussion on being a change agent through pro bono work. Attendees also engaged with our management board and listened to guest speaker Manar Morales, the Founder and CEO of the Diversity and Flexibility Alliance, discuss boosting the impact of affinity groups. An in-house panel featuring some of our distinguished alumni addressed the topic of becoming a “go-to” lawyer. The gathering offered a wonderful chance to connect with colleagues from across the firm and share valuable insights.



NEW FACES

Recent Lateral Partners

We are thrilled to welcome the lateral partners who have joined the firm since July:

Clay Marquez and Meghan McMeel

Clay Marquez, former senior corporate counsel for WW Stores at Amazon, and Meghan McMeel, former senior corporate counsel for devices at Amazon, have joined the firm as partners in the Litigation Group in San Francisco. The duo bring unique in-house and private practice experience to Crowell, where they will work with clients to develop innovative strategies to face today's complex legal and regulatory challenges, both domestically and abroad, enabling clients to mitigate risk and protect and grow their businesses.



[Clay](#) is an accomplished litigator recognized for his successful representation of major corporations in high-stakes legal disputes across various sectors, including retail, technology, and financial services. He

has experience handling securities and consumer class actions, internal investigations, regulatory inquiries, and enforcement actions. He has represented a wide range of clients in both state and federal courts, from *Fortune* 100 companies to privately held tech companies and startups.



[Meghan](#) provides strategic guidance to help businesses navigate complex regulatory landscapes, with a focus on product safety and compliance. She has represented a wide range of clients in civil

litigation in state and federal courts nationwide, including serving as national counsel.

Dr. Justin Hill and Marie Jansson Heeks

Dr. Justin Hill and Marie Jansson Heeks, along with their team of 16 legal and professional staff, have joined Crowell's London office in the Intellectual Property Group. They work with clients engaged in the development of cutting-edge technology and sophisticated research, from large multinationals with complex IP needs to emerging companies looking to identify, protect, and monetize their IP.



[Justin](#) is a *Chambers* Band 1-ranked European patent attorney and patent attorney litigator with over 20 years of experience. He has long been recognized as a leader in the field by all leading independent legal

directories. He advises on IP policy, strategy, portfolio management, and commercialization. As a trusted IP advisor to many of the world's leading tech companies and with experience advising venture funds, Justin uses the latest AI tools to unearth IP and advise on investor readiness and due diligence. He is also known for IP negotiations and successes with complex patent disputes, including litigation, oppositions, and appeals.



[Marie](#) is a qualified solicitor and solicitor advocate, as well as a UK and European patent attorney. Her work focuses on strategic patent portfolio management and litigation, encompassing a broad spectrum

of legal matters in various technical disciplines. She is involved in developing and executing IP portfolio management strategies and patent and IP due diligence. Marie has extensive experience with various patent prosecution matters and has worked on numerous opposition and appeal proceedings.

Scott Wise



[Scott](#), most recently assistant general counsel for global trade at Microsoft, has joined Crowell as a partner in our International Trade Group in the Denver office. Scott was the lead export controls and economic

sanctions attorney for key business groups at Microsoft, including emerging technologies such as AI and quantum computing; aerospace and defense contracts; and commercial software and gaming.

Scott's practice focuses on export controls, economic sanctions, and outbound investment issues, with an emphasis on the emerging technologies space. He works alongside established and startup companies to develop distinct compliance programs that respond to the full

NEW FACES

Recent Lateral Partners (continued)

range of regulations governing the exports of goods and services. He trains and counsels clients on compliance with relevant export control regulations such as the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) and the Export Administration Regulations (EAR).

Matthew F. Ferraro



[Matthew](#), the former senior counselor for cybersecurity and emerging technology to the U.S. secretary of homeland security, has joined Crowell as a partner in the Privacy and Cybersecurity Group. A trusted

advisor to leaders across government and industry, Matthew brings over a decade of experience helping clients address complex regulatory matters at the intersection of advanced technology, national security, and crisis management.

Matthew's practice focuses on counseling companies on their most difficult technology and national security issues. He advises clients on the evolving kaleidoscope of regulations domestically and abroad on AI, data privacy, and emerging technologies. He provides

strategic, governance, and product counseling on new technologies and applications, defends clients in regulatory inquiries and enforcement actions, prepares for and responds to cybersecurity incidents, conducts investigations, and guides clients during crises. He also advises government contractors and other clients on geopolitical and national security risks, including matters before the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS).

Tom Dell'Avvocato



[Tom](#) has joined Crowell & Moring U.K. LLP as a partner in the Financial Services Group. Tom brings extensive experience in non-contentious banking and finance transactions, with a focus on domestic and cross-

border asset-based lending, as well as leveraged and specialty finance. He advises alternative and private capital providers, bank and non-bank lenders, and corporate borrowers on the structuring, restructuring, and execution of complex financing arrangements.



Alumni on the Move

Below is a short collection of updates on some of our alumni, but we would love to include more! Have you recently changed jobs, started a business, or been promoted? Drop us a line at alumni@crowell.com and let us know what you're up to so we can share with this community!

- **Shannon Barnard** (Los Angeles, 2015–2018) is now senior director and associate general counsel for commercial and product at Magic Leap.
- **Alexis White** (Washington, D.C., 2021–2023) joined Davis Wright Tremaine.
- **Portia Bamiduro** (Washington, D.C., 2004–2006) is now vice president and chief of staff to Salesforce's president and chief legal officer
- **Adrian Fontecilla** (Washington, D.C., 2012–2014) joined Ericsson Wireless Solutions as head of business and legal affairs.
- **Christie Stahlke** (Washington, D.C., 2011–2017) is now executive director of M&A integration and separation at RTX.
- **Sally Moyer** (Washington, D.C., 2000–2005) is now director of investigations at Booz Allen Hamilton.
- **Mark Egert** (New York, 2010–2011) is now U.S. head of compliance and regulatory affairs at CoinShares.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Nicole Keen (née Jenkins)

Nicole Keen practiced in Crowell's Washington, D.C. office from 2005–2011. After leaving Crowell, she practiced at Smiths Group until 2023, when she joined Oregon Tool as general counsel and chief compliance officer. Nicole received her B.A. from Principia College and her J.D. from Howard University School of Law. Get to know Nicole below!



Tell us about your time at Crowell and what you've been up to since.

During law school, I was drawn to performing arts law and spent time working in the Office of the General Counsel at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. After graduation, I clerked for the Honorable Inez Smith Reid of the D.C. Court of Appeals for a year. As my clerkship was wrapping up, I found myself wanting the formal, dynamic, and intellectually rigorous environment of a top international law firm. Crowell stood out to me right away. The people were friendly, smart, and genuinely down-to-earth.

Crowell turned out to be a great fit. Over my six years there, I had the opportunity to explore various practice areas, including litigation, international arbitration, and international trade, before ultimately focusing on international trade after my third year. I worked with Kathy Kirmayer, John Murino, Aryeh Portnoy, Jeff Snyder, Carrie Fletcher, Alex Schaefer, John Brew, Dan Cannistra, and many other fantastic lawyers, several of whom are still there today.

Just as I was evaluating my long-term career direction, a recruiter reached out to me about a role at Smiths Group. I loved my time at Crowell, yet I was curious about what happens on the business side after we give our legal advice—how clients actually put that guidance into action. In June 2011, I took a leap and joined Smiths Group's Interconnect Division as director of trade compliance and senior counsel. I spent 13 years at Smiths, progressing through several roles of increasing responsibility, ultimately serving as divisional general counsel and head of ESG for four years. In December 2023, I made the jump to Oregon Tool as general counsel and chief compliance officer.

Who have been your most significant mentors or influences throughout your career? What lessons did you learn from them?

I was fortunate to have excellent mentors early in my career at Crowell. Tracy Roman, my partner mentor, taught me so much about navigating life at the firm, and we stayed in touch after I left. Keith Harrison (current partner at Crowell) and Carrie Fletcher (former counsel at Crowell) also provided strong mentorship, guidance, and a great support system. I'm truly grateful for those relationships and the foundation they gave me.

At Smiths, I learned how valuable sponsorship can be. The divisional general counsel who hired me, along with the group general counsel, encouraged me to aim for a general counsel role, even though I was initially focused on international trade and compliance. They helped me broaden my scope, grow into a true generalist, and become a trusted business partner to our colleagues. They were always in my corner, offering advice, support, and development opportunities. Their guidance strengthened my confidence and sharpened my ability to take on new challenges.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: NICOLE KEEN, CONTINUED

“Forge your own path. There are many routes to success, and they’re rarely linear. Lean into the forks in the road. Take the leap, even when it’s scary. Embrace the twists and turns, push through the tough moments, and stay open to what unfolds. Growth often lives in discomfort. Most importantly, stay true to yourself. Your values, your voice, and your perspective are what set you apart.”

What skills or experiences from your time at Crowell have proven most valuable in your current role at Oregon Tool?

Crowell taught me to communicate succinctly and distill complex concepts into clear, actionable advice. The lawyers I worked with emphasized timely, pragmatic, straightforward guidance, an approach I now appreciate from the client side.

The hands-on experiences and broad range of clients and legal matters I worked on at Crowell gave me a strong foundation in dispute resolution and international trade law, both of which have been important in my roles at global manufacturing companies. Even though my responsibilities are broader now, my background in trade—which is unique for a general counsel—enables me to navigate the nuances of a highly complex and rapidly evolving area of law with confidence. When external expertise is required, I can engage effectively, ensure we’re receiving sound, business-aligned advice, and translate that guidance clearly and concisely for internal stakeholders.

How do you balance the demands of your high-pressure role with personal interests and self-care?

Taking care of myself is a top priority. Earlier in my career, I didn’t always get it right, but I’ve learned that I’m a better teammate and leader when I’m happy and healthy. I make time for the things I love, including working out, reading books, cooking healthy meals, taking the occasional dance class, snowboarding, and spending quality time with family and friends, even if it means logging back in later to finish work. Setting boundaries can be tough, but it’s always worth it.

Now, with a four-year-old daughter, I’ve come to value personal sustainability even more, so I can model a healthy, fulfilling life for her.

What advice would you give to current law students or early-career lawyers looking to make a meaningful impact in their field?

Forge your own path. There are many routes to success, and they’re rarely linear. Lean into the forks in the road. Take the leap, even when it’s scary. Embrace the twists and turns, push through the tough moments, and stay open to what unfolds. Growth often lives in discomfort.

Most importantly, stay true to yourself. Your values, your voice, and your perspective are what set you apart.

What’s next for you? How do you see your career evolving over the next few years?

I’ve been at Oregon Tool for two years now, and I love it — the people, the work, and the challenges keep things exciting. This role lets me be creative, solve problems in a collaborative environment, and work with some truly outstanding people. Moving back to the Pacific Northwest, where I grew up, has been a great bonus. I honestly couldn’t ask for more right now!

EVENTS

Recent Events

Chicago Alumni Event

We recently brought together Brinks and Crowell alumni for a fantastic evening on the riverfront patio at Porter Kitchen & Deck — our third alumni gathering since joining forces in 2021. Over 70 alumni, current Crowell lawyers, and staff enjoyed a beautiful fall night filled with lively conversation, shared memories, and inspiring updates about the remarkable impact our alumni are making in the legal community and beyond.

We're grateful for everyone who joined us and look forward to even more opportunities to reconnect and celebrate our vibrant Chicago alumni network in the future!



Check out [this video](#) to view highlights from the event.



Summer Associate Program Alumni Panel

On July 7, Executive Committee Chair **Chahira Solh** moderated a virtual alumni panel for summer associates. Four former Crowell lawyers shared valuable insight and advice that have served them as they continue their impressive legal careers. Throughout the discussion, panelists returned to the theme of developing trust with both colleagues and clients. They recommended “zooming out” to take in the big picture or broader strategy rather than becoming too focused on completing a single task, as well as learning to balance legal questions with other factors, such as business interests and external stakeholders. Alumni encouraged current summer associates to take advantage of the firm’s mentorship and sponsorship opportunities for junior lawyers, noting the distinctions between mentorship and sponsorship as well as the values of each relationship. The discussion was a generous exchange of knowledge and experience, inspiring thoughtful questions from attendees.

Thanks to the following Crowell alumni for sharing their perspective with summer associates:



Chris Gagne, Senior Corporate Counsel, Project Kuiper, Amazon



Chris Gerardot, IP Attorney, Whirlpool



Dalal Hasan, Strategy Counsel, Google



Nathiya Nagendra, Senior Associate General Counsel for Litigation, Howard University

CONGRATULATIONS

Retired Partners and Senior Counsel

Congratulations to the senior counsel who have retired since June 2024. Both of these lawyers made significant impacts on Crowell and the legal community, and we are proud they chose to practice with us. We look forward to keeping in touch with them and we wish them well in their retirement!



Joe Lines
Orange County



Jim Sobieraj
Chicago

CLE RESOURCES

We are pleased to offer our alumni the CLE resources listed below. For questions about these benefits, contact our [CLE Team](#).

Hotshot Legal (CLE and Learning Content)

Hotshot is a learning platform that offers 300+ short, practical videos and related resources across corporate, litigation, and business topics. They also offer CLE in nearly all MCLE jurisdictions. The firm has a limited number of subscriptions available for firm alumni. If you are interested in a subscription, please email our [CLE Team](#).

Crowell & Moring On Demand CLE Resource

We recently rolled out a CLE resource for our firm alumni and clients, which we are adding to on a rolling basis. Credit is available in a limited number of MCLE jurisdictions including CA, CO, FL, IL, NY, PA, and VA; reciprocal credit in CT and NJ. Please refer to [this website](#) as we continue to add new programs.

We regularly host educational, informative, and social events, both in-person and virtually. Make sure you are [subscribed](#) to stay in the loop, and check out our website to learn more about upcoming [events](#).

JOIN US!



CAREERS@CROWELL

We love introductions to great talent, and we love when alumni return to Crowell. Check out our latest job postings [here](#).



STAY CONNECTED

Join our alumni network as we celebrate achievements, reminisce about shared experiences, and forge new connections. If you have ideas about what you would like to see in future editions of this newsletter, please don't hesitate to get in touch at alumni@crowell.com.



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A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner consisting of several overlapping triangles in various colors: dark blue, light blue, purple, red, yellow, and green.