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Crowell & Moring Adds Ex-Dentons Chem Industry Pro

By Adam Lidgett

Law360, New York (December 13, 2017, 3:43 PM EST) --

Crowell & Moring LLP has expanded its environment and natural resources group with the addition of a partner from Dentons who has more than two decades of experience with chemicals and pesticides law.

Michael Boucher has joined Crowell & Moring in Washington, D.C., the firm said in a Dec. 6 release, bringing with him his practice of advising pesticide makers, retailers and distributors on federal and state regulations. Boucher told Law360 on Wednesday he wanted a firm with a nationally ranked environmental practice in many areas and with a practice that seeks to do and excel in chemical regulation work.



Michael Boucher

"As I looked ahead to the kind of practice I have with chemicals and pesticide regulation, and my traditional client base in the chemical and pesticide industry, Crowell & Moring is a better fit," Boucher said Wednesday.

"I wanted to be at a firm with a very strong D.C. law firm presence, a firm that wants to be very big in D.C. [and] I wanted to be at a firm with a focus on regulatory practices," he continued.

Boucher's practice is heavily focused on pesticide regulation work, having clients that make household pesticides, antimicrobial pesticides and pesticide devices. His clients include Covestro LLC, Ferro Corp. and Infineum USA LP, among others.

Boucher had joined Dentons after his prior employer, McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP, merged into Dentons in 2015, he said. He had begun his law career at McKenna & Cuneo LLP, which then became McKenna Long & Aldridge following a merger, he said.

At those firms, Boucher said, he always did the same work on chemical and pesticide regulation compliance and enforcement matters. Prior to his work at McKenna & Cuneo, Boucher said, he also had brief stints at The Bureau of National Affairs — now Bloomberg BNA — and at EHS Consulting.

Boucher said he enjoys his field of work because he gets to work with chemical companies and with people outside the legal industry.

"The innovations that the chemical industry makes are astounding," he said. "The materials they make to support modern living; I don't think people understand the materials that go into modern life."

Boucher's move to Crowell & Moring comes just months after the firm added two other attorneys from Dentons: partner Peter Gray and senior counsel John D. Conner Jr.

"Michael has a stellar reputation in the industry as a leading authority in chemicals and pesticides regulation," Crowell & Moring Chair Philip T. Inglima said in the Dec. 6 release. "We are thrilled to welcome him to the firm, where his experience expands upon the regulatory capabilities of our nationally recognized group."

--Additional reporting by Rachel Graf. Editing by Edrienne Su.

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