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The Revolving Door: Paul Weiss Hires Freshfields Finance Pro

By **Ashish Sareen**

Law360, London (September 4, 2026, 6:45 PM BST) -- Over the past week, Paul Weiss recruited a longtime Freshfields partner as its new head of European structured finance and securitizations, Mayer Brown hired three new partners from Baker McKenzie for its banking and finance practice in London, and Holman Fenwick Willan took on a private wealth expert from Withers.

Here, Law360 looks at those and more of the week's most notable lateral hires across the U.K.

Norton Rose Hires Corporate Pro From Latham

Norton Rose Fulbright said Sept. 1 that it has appointed Medha Marathe as a new partner from Latham & Watkins LLP for its corporate, M&A and securities practice in London.

Marathe advises international companies, private equity sponsors and strategic investors on complex cross-border mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, carve-outs and other strategic corporate transactions.

The new recruit was a counsel at her former firm and had also been a partner at Indian law firm AZB & Partners.

Marathe, who is dual-qualified in India and England and Wales, has extensive experience advising on international transactions involving India. She advises clients across a range of sectors, including energy, technology, financial services, healthcare and industrials.

Paul Weiss Hires Structured Finance Pro From Freshfields

Paul Weiss Rifkind Wharton & Garrison LLP said Sept. 1 that Mandeep Lotay will join the firm from Freshfields LLP to take up a position as its new head of European structured finance and securitizations.

Lotay will join Paul Weiss as a partner in its London office after spending 25 years at Freshfields. He has worked in London and Amsterdam while at Freshfields, and became a partner at the firm in 2012.

The date Lotay will join Paul Weiss has not yet been confirmed.

The new hire advises alternative asset managers, private capital funds, financial institutions and public and private companies on a wide range of credit opportunities, including private credit and asset-backed finance transactions, securitizations and structured finance transactions.

Neel Sachdev, vice chair and co-head of Paul Weiss' London office, said in a statement that Lotay's "deep cross-border transactional experience will enhance our structured finance capabilities in the U.K. and Europe, and we are excited to have him join our growing London team."

HFW Adds Private Wealth Pro From Withers In London

Holman Fenwick Willan LLP has boosted its yacht and corporate jet practices with the hire of a private wealth expert from Withers LLP, HFW said Sept. 1.

Toby Joy joins HFW as a partner in its London office, following a period as a senior associate at Withers, where he led the firm's European luxury assets practice. The new recruit spent more than a decade at Withers, where he qualified as a solicitor in 2014. He started at HFW on Sept. 1.

Joy is dual-qualified in England and Wales and the British Virgin Islands. He has particular expertise in the acquisition and finance of yachts and private jets. The clients he represents include ultra-high-net-worth individuals, family offices, trustees, lenders and operators.

HFW has now taken on six new partners in London in 2026, after hiring aviation disputes expert Guy Marrison, ship finance lawyer Simon Petch and aviation finance specialist Oliver Tebbit. It has also promoted aviation disputes lawyer Mark Waters and construction expert Tanya Chadha to its partnership.

Mayer Brown Hires Baker McKenzie Trio For Finance Team

Mayer Brown LLP has hired three lawyers from Baker McKenzie as partners in its banking and finance practice in London.

The U.S. firm said that Rob Mathews, David Becker and Ben Bierwirth will bolster its capabilities in high-yield debt, term loan B and leveraged finance transactions while complementing its existing strengths in syndicated lending, direct lending, restructuring, structured finance and capital solutions.

The new recruits joined Mayer Brown on Sept. 1.

All three lawyers are experienced in advising on New York law high-yield transactions from London. They are the latest additions to Mayer Brown's banking and finance practice in the English capital, following the arrivals of emerging markets partner James Clarke and structured finance partner Sarah Goodwin earlier in 2026.

The firm also hired leveraged finance partners David Miles and Philip Butler, structured finance partners Chris McGarry and Adam Farrell and corporate trustee partner Kevin Ng in 2025.

TLT Hires 2 Partners From Howard Kennedy, Gowling

TLT LLP said Sept. 1 that it has hired an expert in financial crime defense from Howard Kennedy LLP and a construction lawyer from Gowling WLG, as TLT strengthens its capabilities in sectors crucial to its long-term growth.

David Hamilton joins TLT's London office from Howard Kennedy as a financial services enforcement and white-collar defense specialist. He is the second financial services partner to join TLT in a week after the arrival of Natalie Coates, who is an asset finance specialist.

Hamilton has more than 16 years of experience representing corporate institutions, financial entities and senior executives in contentious regulatory proceedings, domestic and cross-border enforcement actions and internal investigations.

TLT also welcomed the arrival of construction lawyer Ruth Griffin as a partner in its office in Birmingham. The new recruit spent more than a decade at Gowling WLG, where she was a partner for the past five years.

Griffin focuses on non-contentious construction matters, advising on the delivery of complex commercial, residential, mixed-use and infrastructure developments, alongside wider engineering and capital projects.

TLT said Hamilton's arrival has strengthened its infrastructure and wider real estate development offering.

Pinsent Masons Hires Ex-Paul Hastings Corporate Pro

Pinsent Masons LLP has recruited a former Paul Hastings LLP corporate partner for its London office, as it looks to grow its share of work from infrastructure investors.

Candice Lambeth joins Pinsent Masons after spending two years as a corporate partner in Paul Hastings' energy and infrastructure practice. Her LinkedIn profile shows that she left the U.S. law firm in July 2025. She has also previously practiced at Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP and Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer LLP.

Lambeth has extensive experience in complex domestic and cross-border transactions, as well as competitive auctions, carve-outs, co-investments, joint ventures and general corporate advisory work. Her clients include private equity and infrastructure sponsors, as well as pension funds and sovereign wealth funds.

She started at Pinsent Masons on Sept. 2.

Crowell & Moring Hires Arbitration Pro From MoFo

Crowell & Moring LLP said Sept. 2 that it has hired international arbitration lawyer Chiraag Shah as a partner in its office in London. Shah was previously global head of international arbitration and head of the Africa desk at Morrison Foerster LLP.

Crowell & Moring said Shah brings more than 25 years of experience advising clients around the world on high-stakes arbitration matters to its international dispute resolution practice.

Shah has expertise in matters spanning Africa and the Middle East. Among other jurisdictions, he has advised on disputes in Kenya, Nigeria, the United Arab Emirates and Kuwait. He also regularly advises on sanctions-linked disputes.

The new recruit has previously been a partner at Kirkland & Ellis LLP, and has also worked at law firms in

Kenya.

Freeths Hires Insolvency Pro From Dentons

Freeths LLP said Sept. 2 that it has recruited a restructuring and insolvency lawyer from Dentons as a partner in its office in London.

Mark Price joined Freeths on Sept. 1 after spending more than 14 years advising on complex and high-profile insolvency, restructuring and dispute resolution matters at his former firm.

Price brings significant experience and strong relationships across the U.K. restructuring and insolvency market, including with insolvency practitioners, receivers and financial institutions, Freeths said. Restructuring and insolvency is a practice area Freeths has targeted for significant growth over the next five years, according to the law firm.

Travers Smith Hires Employment Pro From Deloitte Legal

Travers Smith LLP said Sept. 3 that it has strengthened its employment practice with the hire of a new partner from Deloitte Legal.

Andrew Howard will join Travers Smith at the end of September, after serving as a partner and head of people law and employee relations at Deloitte Legal. His arrival will mean Travers Smith has six partners and 24 other lawyers working in its employment team.

Howard spent more than six years at Deloitte Legal. He has also previously worked at Allen & Overy LLP, Speechly Bircham LLP and Eversheds LLP, according to his LinkedIn profile.

The new recruit has broad industry experience, with a particular focus on the financial services sector.

Sheppard Hires Corporate Pro From Simmons & Simmons

Sheppard said Sept. 3 that it has hired a new corporate partner from Simmons & Simmons LLP for its office in London.

Linda Zeman is an experienced M&A and private equity lawyer, whose work includes leveraged buyouts, acquisitions and disposals, mergers, joint ventures and corporate governance matters. The new recruit has particular expertise in the healthcare, life sciences and technology sectors.

Zeman joined Simmons & Simmons as an of counsel in late 2023 after previously working as a partner at McDermott Will & Emery LLP. She has also worked at Duane Morris LLP and Australian law firm Gilbert & Tobin, according to her LinkedIn profile.

She started at Sheppard on Sept. 1

Paul Hastings Hires 3rd Fund Finance Pro In London

Paul Hastings LLP said Sept. 3 that it has hired a fund finance partner from Stephenson Harwood LLP, marking the third expert the firm has recruited for its London office in less than a year.

Daniel Margolis joins Paul Hastings following the arrivals of two other new fund finance partners in recent months. Jennifer Passagne joined from Haynes Boone in November, before Leon Stephenson arrived from Reed Smith LLP in July.

Margolis, who started at Paul Hastings on Sept. 1, advises bank lenders, non-bank lenders and fund borrowers on a variety of fund finance transactions, including subscription line facilities, net asset value credit facilities and management company facilities.

He also has experience representing both lenders and borrowers in sponsor-backed leveraged and acquisition finance and real estate finance transactions.

The three new hires continue Paul Hastings' push to grow its practices in London, and form part of a wider expansion of its global fund finance practice.

The firm launched an office in Charlotte, North Carolina, in January, a move that brought together fund finance teams from Cadwalader Wickersham & Taft LLP, Haynes Boone and Mayer Brown, all adding to Paul Hastings' existing team, led by Eric Schwitzer.

Gibson Dunn Hires White & Case Duo For Data Center Practice

Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP said Sept. 3 that it has recruited two real estate partners from White & Case LLP in London in response to unprecedented levels of investment from clients in data centers, a trend being driven by the rise of artificial intelligence.

James Johnson and Victoria Delacey will officially start their careers at Gibson Dunn on Sept. 7. Both lawyers cover a broad spectrum of real estate work, with particular expertise in matters involving the data center and digital infrastructure industry.

Eric Feuerstein, co-chair of Gibson Dunn's global real estate practice group, said in a statement that "the growth of AI is driving an unprecedented level of investment in data centers by our real estate, infrastructure and lender clients, and the size and scope of those projects continue to increase."

"Clients expect their lawyers to have subject matter expertise in this asset class, particularly experience negotiating data center leases and service agreements," Feuerstein added. "James and Victoria bring exactly that experience and are among the very few lawyers in EMEA who have done this work at scale."

Digital Regulation Pro Rejoins Norton Rose From Deloitte

Norton Rose said Sept. 3 that digital regulation lawyer Joanna Conway has returned to the firm as a partner in its London office after serving as a partner in Deloitte's U.K. legal team.

Conway has rejoined Norton Rose to build out its digital regulation practice, having done the same at Deloitte.

Conway began her career as a trainee at Norton Rose, qualifying as a solicitor there in 2005. She remained at the firm for around 14 years before joining technology-focused boutique Kemp Little LLP in 2019, which was later acquired by Deloitte.

Conway worked for Deloitte Legal until June before moving into Deloitte. She started at Norton Rose on

Aug. 17.

Norton Rose said Conway's return "reflects the firm's strategic focus on expanding its digital regulatory, contentious and litigation capabilities, as clients face rapidly evolving and increasingly complex regulatory regimes across major global markets."

Broadfield Hires Funds Pro From Consultancy

Broadfield Law UK LLP said Sept. 3 that it has added to its corporate team in London with an investment funds expert.

David Brennand joins Broadfield as a partner following a stint as a senior business adviser at Ansoff Business Advisory, a consultancy. He has also previously worked at Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP, Walkers, Sidley Austin LLP and SJ Berwin, according to his LinkedIn profile.

The new recruit has more than 20 years of experience as a corporate lawyer. He is particularly knowledgeable about investment funds and joint ventures.

David Ramm, head of corporate at Broadfield in the U.K., said in a statement that the law firm's clients "face increasingly complex capital raising and investment landscapes, requiring commercially focused advice grounded in corporate knowledge and a thorough understanding of the funds market."

"David exemplifies this blend through his expertise. He reflects the changing needs of our clients and underscores our dedication to attracting top-tier market talent," Ramm said.

--Editing by Kathleen Hennessy.