

Crowell & Moring Partner Named DC Bar President-Elect

By Alison Knezevich

Law360 (June 7, 2024, 3:59 PM EDT) -- D.C. Bar members have selected a Crowell & Moring LLP employment law partner as their president-elect, the association announced Friday.

Sadina Montani, a past president of the Women's Bar Association of the District of Columbia, won the bar election over CapEx Legal principal attorney Hardeep Grover by a vote of 4,624 to 2,506, according to vote totals posted on the D.C. Bar's website.

Montani will serve as president-elect for a one-year term starting July 1, becoming president in 2025.



Sadina Montani

Also on July 1, the D.C. Bar's current president-elect, National Association of State Treasurers CEO Shaun Snyder, will become president, succeeding Charles R. Lowery Jr. of the National Housing Conference.

In a statement from the bar association, Montani said she was honored and enjoyed getting to know Grover and other candidates for leadership positions through the election process.

"I am confident the future of the Bar is bright, and I'm committed to making a positive impact on our legal community," she said. "I am particularly eager to support and lift up our voluntary bar associations and D.C. Bar Communities."

In an interview Friday with Law360 Pulse, Montani added that she believes it's a critical time for the legal community.

"A lot of us are thinking about what the future of law looks like," she said, including considering how to ethically use and work with artificial intelligence.

And as an employment attorney, "I am personally very focused on the people aspect of the future of the practice of law," she said, such as considering how best to mentor and teach early career lawyers in the wake of the pandemic.

Montani was president of the Women's Bar Association of D.C. from 2020 to 2021. While serving as its immediate past president, she led the group's work on an amicus brief submitted by women's legal

organizations in support of respondents in the U.S. Supreme Court case *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Org.*

She also serves as co-chair of her firm's Women's Leadership Initiative and as chief governance officer of Ayuda, a nonprofit that provides legal, social and language services to low-income immigrants in D.C., Maryland and Virginia, according to her firm biography.

Montani, who started her legal career at Dentons, joined Crowell in 2020 after a decade with Vedder Price PC. She earned her master's and law degrees from George Washington University and completed her undergraduate studies at Western Michigan University, according to her firm profile.

The D.C. Bar also announced that Joshua L. Mogil was elected to a one-year term as treasurer-elect. Mogil is an attorney with the U.S. Department of Justice, according to his LinkedIn profile. Treasurer-elect Mark A. Salzberg of Squire Patton Boggs LLP will become the organization's treasurer.

In other bar elections, members elected the following to three-year terms on the D.C. Bar Board of Governors: Shirley Diaz of Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP, nonprofit staff attorney Belinda Edwards Taylor, Kathryn Rakoczy of the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia, federal government attorney Leila S. Bham and Diane A. Seltzer of The Seltzer Law Firm.

Elected to two-year terms on the American Bar Association House of Delegates were Laura A. Possesky of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Lorelie S. Masters of Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP and Lucy L. Thomson of Livingston PLLC.

Of the more than 88,000 D.C. Bar members eligible to vote, 8.6% cast ballots, according to the association. Turnout was similar last year, at 8.8%.

--Additional reporting by Amanda Ottaway. Editing by Emma Brauer.