

Crowell & Moring Rehires Top NY Federal Prosecutor

By **Stewart Bishop**

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Crowell & Moring LLP on Thursday said it has rehired the former Acting U.S. Attorney and Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of New York to work as a partner in the firm's white collar and regulatory enforcement group.

Kelly T. Currie is known for his prosecutorial chops in overseeing the investigation and indictment of former Federation Internationale de Football Association, or FIFA, officials and sports marketing executives, in a landmark global corruption case that has ensnared 41 individuals.



Kelly Currie

He also was at the forefront of the case against individuals in the U.S. and Ukraine who allegedly were behind a brazen insider trading scheme that hacked into the servers of major press release distribution newswires and traded based on nonpublic information about upcoming deals and earnings.

U.S. Attorney General Loretta Lynch wished Currie well in private practice and lauded his work at a prosecutor for the Eastern District, calling him a "consummate public servant: dedicated, selfless and fair."

"During two stints as an attorney in the Eastern District of New York — including his tenure as my chief assistant during my time there as U.S. Attorney — he was instrumental to the office's prosecution of cases involving corruption, securities fraud and terrorism," Lynch said in a statement. "And when I became attorney general last April, Kelly graciously served as Acting U.S. Attorney — a role he filled with characteristic skill, energy and integrity."

The chair of Crowell & Moring's white collar group, Tom Hanusik, said that the firm is "thrilled" to welcome Currie back, and praised his "very successful and dedicated service." Hanusik called the Eastern District a key prosecuting office for white collar crime, and noted that Currie has successfully led that office, including its 175 prosecutors and other professional staff.

"Kelly's skill and talent as both a prosecutor and defense lawyer have earned him an exemplary reputation with judges, state and federal prosecutors and the defense bar," Hanusik said in a statement. "His return to Crowell & Moring is a significant addition to our New York office, and the firm as a whole, and will further bolster our already extensive experience on high-profile, high-stakes matters."

According to the firm, Currie's practice will include criminal, regulatory and civil litigation, along with governmental and internal investigations. In light of his high-level government experience, Crowell & Moring said that he will be in a unique position to counsel boards of directors and help companies to implement compliance programs, as well as other measures following government enforcement matters.

Currie told Law360 that he is happy to be rejoining Crowell & Moring, which he praised as being full of a lot of smart lawyers who like to work together.

"I'm returning to what I already thought was a great place to be," Currie said.

Currie, who was at Crowell & Moring from 2010 to 2014 before accepting a position to be then-U.S. Attorney Lynch's top deputy, said that his most recent time as a prosecutor has given him an even broader perspective on the legal landscape. He cited his close work with top U.S. Department of Justice officials on important cases in the Eastern District and public policy as well as his time spent leading the office's Civil Division as particularly important experiences.

Prior to his first stint at Crowell & Moring, Currie worked as an AUSA from 1999 to 2010, and served as deputy chief of the Criminal Division and chief of the Violent Crimes and Terrorism Section. He has tried more than 15 federal jury trials to verdict and argued more than a dozen cases before the Second Circuit court, according to the firm.

Currie has also worked as a senior adviser to former U.S. Sen. George J. Mitchell, who chaired the Northern Ireland political negotiations, which led to the milestone Good Friday Agreement.

He is a graduate of the University of Virginia McIntire School of Commerce, and earned his law degree from the University of Virginia School of Law.

--Editing by Stephen Berg.

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