

Locke Lord's alumni newsletter

LOCKEDin

Serving Clients

AROUND THE WORLD



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ALUMNI PROFILE

Kamela Bridges

From Courtroom to Classroom

Letter from the Chair



Jerry Clements, Firm Chair

In the year and a half since we first introduced you to our alumni magazine *Lockedin*, I am happy to tell you that we have fulfilled an important part of our strategic plan – to become a truly international law firm with lawyers capable of serving our clients anywhere in the world. This fourth edition of *Lockedin* introduces you to our newest team on the ground in Hong Kong. Momentum is strong in Hong Kong, where 14 outstanding lawyers have joined us this year, while the London group we started building in late 2011 has grown to about 35 lawyers.

They all collaborate seamlessly with Locke Lord's 11 U.S. offices and form a united international team that takes our client service to the next level. Our well-established and strong Asia and China practice, which includes U.S.-based lawyers familiar with the Asian market and culture, now has even more resources in international arbitration, energy, business litigation and dispute resolution and other practices that have operated internationally for many years.

Our increased presence in London and Hong Kong offers direct routes to the world's major business centers in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and other areas where our clients must compete in a global marketplace. Our lawyers now tell our clients with confidence that we are where they need us – around the clock and around the world.

I hope you will enjoy the articles inside this issue of *Lockedin*. Our Firm Leadership column introduces you to our Pro Bono Committee, which oversees a long list of volunteer projects that our Firm contributes to in the communities where we live. You will also meet 51 new lawyers who have joined Locke Lord since the last issue.

Our Alumni Feature on Pages 6-7 takes you back in time with former Austin Partner Kamela Bridges, who actually was sent to help try a case her first day on the job, even before she was sworn in as an official lawyer. She was a pretty safe bet, though, because she earned the second highest score on her bar exam that year! She now teaches legal writing and is a lecturer at the University of Texas School of Law, and she has sent us

some exceptional new lawyers from her classes. She dedicated her book on *Writing for Litigation* to two of her Locke Lord mentors.

Please remember to check our Alumni page on the website (www.lockelord.com/about/alumni/), and read our current news and Notable Matters on the homepage (www.lockelord.com), where we bring you up to date on our significant cases, including a recent rare U.S. Supreme Court review of a client's lawsuit. Along with our website, you can follow our news, announcements, webinars and other events on LinkedIn, Twitter and our Locke Lord App. We are always looking for better ways to keep you informed and connected so we can all stay in touch.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jerry Clements". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Pro Bono Efforts Are Global in Scope

Last year, more than half of Locke Lord's lawyers contributed to pro bono projects at one of our 13 offices. These efforts included participating in local clinics, handling individual cases and corporate projects and working on firmwide initiatives. Combined, our lawyers spent more than 10,000 hours volunteering in a variety of pro bono matters, from legal aid clinics to gaining political asylum for people persecuted in their homelands. It's important work and part of the Firm's ethical responsibility to give back to the communities in which we live.

In one recent example of our pro bono efforts, the Firm was instrumental in researching and drafting the studies that led to new legislation to ensure fair criminal discovery across Texas. The Firm partnered with Texas Appleseed, a policy-based pro bono organization dedicated to ensuring justice for underprivileged Texas residents, to create the new law, called the Michael Morton Act, which the Texas House and Senate passed unanimously and which the governor signed. It requires Texas prosecutors to disclose important evidence – like police reports and witness statements – in every criminal case. Morton was convicted in the murder of his wife and imprisoned for nearly 25 years. His exoneration, coupled with the conviction of the real killer, led to charges against the former prosecutor for withholding evidence.

Led by Dallas Partner Kip Mendrygal, nearly 40 lawyers from six Locke Lord offices worked many months through the Texas Appleseed project to interview prosecutors across the state and analyze their criminal discovery practices. The team found systemic inconsistencies from county to county regarding what information was provided to defendants during discovery, information that led to the Michael Morton Act. Dallas Partner Elizabeth Mack serves on the Board of Directors of Texas Appleseed.

Firm's Pro Bono Leadership

Eleven Locke Lord attorneys serve on the firmwide Pro Bono Committee, which oversees dozens of volunteer projects around the country. From gaining asylum for persecuted clients to helping bring about changes in the criminal justice system, Locke Lord lawyers work to improve the legal system and to help people who can't afford to pay for legal services.



Co-Chair Art Anthony - Dallas

Business Litigation & Dispute Resolution;
Consumer Finance



Co-Chair Ann Walsh - Chicago

Chair, Product Liability Practice Group;
Business Litigation & Dispute Resolution



Brent Benoit - Houston

Business Litigation & Dispute Resolution



Jennifer Brough - San Francisco, Washington, D.C.

Corporate; Energy; Administrative & Regulatory



Tom Connop - Dallas

Bankruptcy, Restructuring & Insolvency;
Business Litigation & Dispute Resolution; Consumer Finance



Susan Kidwell - Austin

Appellate; Business Litigation & Dispute Resolution



Gaston Kroub - New York

IP Litigation; Trademark, Copyright & Advertising



Sarah Linton - London

Labor & Employment



Rusty Perdew - Chicago

Business Litigation & Dispute Litigation; Product Liability;
Consumer Finance,



Gary Powell - Dallas

Business Litigation & Dispute Resolution;
Banking & Financial Institutions Litigation; Construction



Steve Tuggy - Los Angeles

Antitrust; Environmental; Product Liability;
Business Litigation & Dispute Litigation

洛克律師事務所

Meet Locke Lord's Hong Kong Attorneys



Locke Lord's global profile continues to grow with the expansion of its Hong Kong and London offices.

In just the first half of this year, seven new Partners have joined the Hong Kong office, bringing the on-the-ground team to 14 lawyers, while adding international capabilities to a number of strong practice areas, such as banking and finance, corporate, business litigation and dispute resolution, and mergers and acquisitions.

The Firm's London office also has expanded to about 35 lawyers, bringing Locke Lord's strength to about 650 lawyers. Together, this international team works seamlessly, taking on client challenges in any number of arenas. The Firm's already strong Asia and China practice now has added capabilities in international arbitration, energy, insurance, business litigation and dispute resolution, and other practice areas and industries where Locke Lord has operated globally for years.

To date, Locke Lord's Hong Kong lawyers and their areas of focus include the following:



Hong Kong Office Managing Partner **Balbir Bindra** focuses his practice on a wide range of banking, capital markets, derivatives, leveraged finance and structured finance matters. He has been involved in several large divestments and acquisitions, corporate reorganizations and major financings.



International Partner **Wing Cheung**, a former public prosecutor for the Hong Kong government, handles transactional and contentious matters and advises clients on corporate finance and commercial matters, particularly in the field of acquiring mining interests by listed companies.



International Partner **Michael Fung** practices corporate finance, including advising both issuers and underwriters on initial public offerings (IPOs) on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. He also is experienced in secondary equity fund raisings, such as right issues, open offers, top-up placings, mergers and acquisitions and private equity investments practices.



International Partner **Alfred Lee's** corporate finance experience includes regulatory compliance of public companies and general corporate commercial matters. He advises issuers and sponsors in IPOs on the main board and Growth Enterprise Market of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong.



Partner **Tej Mahil** has extensive experience in domestic and multijurisdictional mergers and acquisitions, venture capital and private equity investments. His work includes international joint ventures involving businesses operating in a diverse number of sections across the Asia-Pacific, Europe and North America.



Of Counsel **King Hui** practices corporate/commercial, litigation and property law. His wide-ranging experience in commercial matters includes advising both public and private companies with fundraising, debt restructuring, joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions and immigration matters.



Partner **Adrian Taylor** is an experienced litigator who handles international disputes, trust and taxation matters, and insolvency and restructuring issues. His dispute resolution work across a wide variety of industries includes negotiation, litigation, mediation and arbitration.



Of Counsel **Stephen Lo** covers the full range of dispute resolution matters, maintaining a particular emphasis on commercial litigation. He counsels clients in a broad range of fields, including the aerospace, medical, transportation and financial industries, among others.



International Partner **Matthew Wong** focuses on corporate finance, capital markets, foreign direct investments and mergers and acquisitions, including IPOs and secondary offerings. He also is experienced in corporate takeovers and restructurings, private equity and venture capital investments and funds and collective investment schemes.



Of Counsel **Roger Wong** focuses his practice on corporate/commercial and company secretarial matters. He is experienced in mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, matters concerning the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, loan transactions and general commercial transactions.

Also new to the Hong Kong office are:
Associates **Carmen Liang** and **Gloria Ting**,
and Trainee Solicitors **Kevin Chan** and **Max Hui**.

New to the Firm

Locke Lord has added 51 new attorneys, including two trainee solicitors, to its approximately 650-lawyer international Firm since the last edition of *Lockedin*. These numbers include 18 new Partners, 22 Associates and 11 other attorneys and solicitor trainees. The expanded Hong Kong office has steady growth with 14 lawyers on board and a support staff that brings the office to 20 people. *(see adjacent article on our new Hong Kong lawyers)*

ATLANTA

Lori Bibb, Senior Counsel
Sarah Jurkiewicz, Senior Counsel
Danya Snyder, Associate

CHICAGO

Bill Howard, Partner
Keith Gibson, Senior Counsel
Tom Gehl, Of Counsel
John Costello, Counsel
Donald Cole, Associate
Kris Knabe, Associate
Nick O'Conner, Associate
Benjamin Sykes, Associate

DALLAS

Raleigh Johnston, Associate
Lauren Munoz, Associate
Kevin Satter, Associate

HOUSTON

Vince Cangolosi, Associate
Alex Fader, Associate
Jeff McPhaul, Associate
Hunter Summerford, Associate

LONDON

James Channo, Partner
Ian McKenna, Partner
Luke Morris, Partner
Samrad Nazer, Partner
Kate DaSilva, Associate
Leon Miller, Associate
Jorge Salgado-Gonzalez, Associate
Svetlana Sorokina-Wilson, Associate

LOS ANGELES

Louis Dienes, Partner
Dan Peters, Partner
Lilian Khanjian, Associate

NEW YORK

Andy Fish, Partner
Michael Kushner, Partner
Emily Larrimer Savas, Associate (Rehire)

SACRAMENTO

John McKinsey, Partner
Daniel King, Associate

SAN FRANCISCO

Jonathan Lieberman, Associate

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Jim Alford, Partner
Seung-Ho Choe, Of Counsel

From Courtroom to Classroom

Former Austin Partner Kamela Bridges Uses Litigation Experience
Gained at Locke Lord to Train the Next Generation of Lawyers



Kamela Bridges

Whenever Lecturer Kamela Bridges stands in front of an incoming class of first-year law students at the University of Texas School of Law, she has great war stories to tell. As a Locke Lord Associate, then a Partner, she spent a decade in Texas courtrooms honing the skills needed to communicate effectively with jurors, clients and colleagues.

Her first day at the Firm in the early 1990s, Bridges was assigned to work a lender liability case in Gonzales, Texas. She wrote legal briefs, walked the client through the process step-by-step and handled details of the trial – a fascinating process that she continues to draw upon to make the law come alive for her students. During her first trial, Bridges wasn't even a licensed lawyer yet and could not sit at the counsel table.

"I had passed the Bar but hadn't been sworn in yet," Bridges recalls. When the jury went out, the Locke Lord Partner whom Bridges was working with planned to get her sworn in immediately so she could count the Gonzales trial as her first win. But as they were discussing swearing-in logistics with the judge, the jury returned with a verdict.

Bridges still laughs at the memory. “We won, and that was a lot of fun,” she says. From that first court victory, she looked forward to trial assignments and usually worked on at least one a year from beginning to end - with all the pretrial preparation and follow-up outside the courtroom. “It was great compared to what many young lawyers get to do today,” she says. “I’m very glad for the experience, and I really think it makes me a better teacher.”

“I love what I do now, but there are definitely times I miss the excitement of the practice of law. Maybe that’s why I stay in touch with my former colleagues – so I can live vicariously through them,” Bridges says.

Since 2000, Bridges has lectured at The David J. Beck Center for Legal Research, Writing and Appellate Advocacy at the UT School of Law. She teaches three courses: Legal Research & Writing, Brief Writing and Oral Advocacy, and Advanced Legal Writing: Litigation. She invites Locke Lord colleagues to speak to her classes. Austin Partners Dave Foster and Jim Davis have been guests, and Austin Hiring Partner Michelle Earley talks with her often about her most promising law school graduates who might have a future at Locke Lord. Austin Partner Alan Waldrop, a former Justice of the Austin Court of Appeals, frequently judges in the first-year moot-court competition.

“I feel personal accountability for any law student I refer to the Firm,” Bridges explains. “They have to be hard-working and willing to learn. One of the things I liked about the Austin office is its team atmosphere. So, I look for students who are willing to roll up their sleeves and do whatever is asked of them.”

“Kamela is a true friend to the Firm, as well as a great teacher and mentor to her students,” Foster says. “One of her favorites is now one of our favorites,” he adds, referring to Austin’s Amanda Schaeffer, a fifth-year Locke Lord Associate with the Consumer Finance Litigation group.

“She was really able to train you for the practice of law, which is something a lot of law school classes don’t do,” Schaeffer says. Bridges’ enthusiasm was a great motivator, and her high regard for Locke Lord was one of the factors that drew Schaeffer to the Austin office, Schaeffer says. “Her writing for litigation class is probably the most helpful class I took in law school.”

Early in her teaching career, Bridges recognized the need for an upper level textbook on litigation writing, and she began thinking about the documents that should be covered and the level of detail that should be included. In 2011, she and colleague Wayne Schiess published “Writing for Litigation,” which trains lawyers on the preparation of every document they will need during the

life of a case, from a client engagement letter to discovery, client communications and affidavits.

Bridges dedicated her textbook to retired Locke Lord’s Joe Latting and John Schwartz (Of Counsel), “who taught me how to practice law.” She loved being a lawyer and made Partner the year her first son was born. At the time, her husband worked on the news desk at the Austin American-Statesman, so both parents had irregular hours. Bridges responded to a UT School of Law ad in Texas Lawyer just to see what would happen.

“I love what I do now, but there are definitely times I miss the excitement of the practice of law. Maybe that’s why I stay in touch with my former colleagues – so I can live vicariously through them,” Bridges says, laughing. “My career now is much more predictable, and not as combative.”

Bridges and her husband John, now Managing Editor of the Statesman, have two sons, Jake, 15, and Joe, 12.

She is still reminded of Locke Lord and its predecessor firms daily as she walks around the UT campus, particularly the third floor of the law school’s John B. Connally Center for the Administration of Justice where the Honorable John L. Hill Trial Advocacy Center and teaching courtroom are located. Judge Hill, who died in 2007, was the only person in Texas history to serve as secretary of state, attorney general and chief justice, and he also was a name Partner in one of our predecessor firms and head of its litigation section.

Bridges considers herself fortunate to have worked one-on-one with Judge Hill. When he found out she had earned the second-highest grade in the state on the Bar Exam, he sought her help on a big mediation he was working on in Houston. He assigned her to figure out all the legal issues involved. “Judge Hill was demanding and maybe a little untraditional, but also very interested in mentoring and in helping me along. He would tell the younger lawyers stories,” Bridges says. “He said he would snip a button off his shirt in court because he wanted jurors to feel a little sorry for him.

“Everyone in our office had imitations of Judge Hill and his distinctive way of speaking and everybody would repeat a Judge Hill quote, like – ‘It’s a damn shame we have to work on more than one thing at a time.’” His influence remains with her to this day, as does the Firm’s.

“I feel like I haven’t gone far from home,” Bridges says.



Notable Matters

Scan this code with your device's QR reader to learn more about Locke Lord.



Each day our Locke Lord lawyers handle legal matters around the world. To keep our clients better informed, we've started a new feature on our website called **Notable Matters** (www.lockelord.com/notablematters).

Just click on 'more' or on the featured item to get details on interesting matters we're involved in, from a recent U.S. Supreme Court review to our representation of the City of Atlanta in its development and financing of a new NFL stadium.

We tell our clients we are 'Around the Clock...Around the World' for them, and **Notable Matters** proves that point.

Keep in Touch!

Now that we've found you – don't be a stranger. Keep in touch with us by registering on our website – www.lockelord.com/about/alumni/ - and spreading word to any other Locke Lord alumni you've kept up with since your time here.

We welcome your ideas for future alumni events or *Lockedin* stories. Share them with us by emailing Emily Vodek at evodek@lockelord.com.

Thank you for joining us and helping us work toward strengthening our alumni program. We are glad you could be here and look forward to seeing you again soon.



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