

## Mayer Brown Lures Financing Partner From Haynes And Boone

By **Daniel Wilson**

*Law360, New York (September 07, 2012, 4:59 PM ET)* -- Mayer Brown has added a former Haynes and Boone LLP partner with extensive banking and private equity funding and mergers and acquisitions experience to its banking and finance practice, one of more than a dozen lateral partner additions to its New York office over the past two years, the firm has said.

Ann Richardson Knox joins Mayer Brown after nearly nine years at Haynes and Boone, bringing more than 14 years of experience with her, according to the firm's Aug. 29 announcement.

Knox said the "outstanding capabilities" of Mayer Brown's banking and finance practice and the firm's "extensive global reach" were key reasons for her move.

"I look forward to applying my experience and knowledge in subscription credit facilities and portfolio leveraging transactions to help current and future clients achieve their business goals," Knox said.

Knox's practice focuses on complex secured loan and financing deals on behalf of both major financial services firms and nontraditional lenders across the globe.

On the financial services front, she represents commercial and investment banks working as lead agents and arrangers for structured credit facilities, mezzanine financing and commercial loans to funds and corporations seeking liquidity or to leverage their portfolios, such as energy funds, opportunity funds and real estate funds. She also works on capital market and high-yield transactions.

Alternative lenders that Knox represents include private equity funds, venture capital funds, hedge funds, project finance lenders and other nontraditional lenders, on issues involving secured lien credit facilities and note purchases, workouts and exit financing. She also assists in the negotiation and structuring of acquisition and portfolio company financing in friendly and hostile mergers and acquisitions.

The deals Knox has worked on include numerous cross-border financing deals across several continents and several secured facility and acquisition financing deals worth more than \$1 billion each. She also represented the issuer of a \$6.05 billion self-tender offer, which at the time was the largest ever issuer self-tender deal.

David Duffee, New York practice leader of Mayer Brown's banking and finance practice, said Knox's "unique" skills would help the firm deepen its subscription lending capabilities and expand its ability to serve the needs of clients in New York and globally.

"Ann is highly regarded for her strong track record of representing U.S. and foreign banks on myriad fund finance matters, particularly on subscription credit facilities for private equity, opportunity and mezzanine fund borrowers," Duffee said.

Richard A. Spehr, partner in charge of the firm's New York office, said Knox's arrival would "further accelerate" Mayer Brown's "positive momentum" in the city.

Knox received her bachelor's degree from Cornell University and her law degree from Columbia University.

--Editing by Richard McVay.

All Content © 2003-2012, Portfolio Media, Inc.