

Mayer Brown Nabs Ex-Davis Polk IP Pro In Northern Calif.

By **Tiffany Hu**

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Mayer Brown LLP has bolstered its Northern California offices with the addition of a former Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP attorney with 17 years of experience in intellectual property and technology transactions, the firm announced Monday.

Michelle Gross has joined Mayer Brown as a partner in its technology transactions and cybersecurity practices, the firm said. Gross, who previously worked as counsel at Davis Polk, will be based in the firm's offices in San Francisco and Palo Alto.

"Michelle will be a valuable asset in serving our clients in the tech and financial services sectors," Ward Johnson, partner-in-charge of the firm's Northern California offices, said in a statement. "Her arrival marks a significant step in our continued growth here in Northern California."

Gross' practice spans across a broad range of intellectual property matters, including strategic alliances and licensing, as well as mergers and acquisitions for business units and product lines, the firm said.

She further advises on data privacy and security policies and product development, the firm said.

Gross said in a statement that she was drawn by Mayer Brown's expertise in "areas of critical importance to technology companies," praising the firm's M&A, capital markets, technology transactions and regulatory capabilities.

"I hope to provide a fresh perspective on these and other matters to the firm's impressive client roster," she said.

Gross' hire is part of Mayer Brown's efforts to expand both its corporate and technology transactions capabilities in Northern California, the firm said Monday.

"She is ideally positioned to serve our clients in the private equity and financial services sectors, as well as clients seeking counsel on data privacy, cybersecurity and technology issues," Brad Peterson, who leads the firm's technology transactions group, said in a statement. "We are delighted to welcome her to the firm."



Michelle Gross

Gross got her law degree from Columbia Law School and received her bachelor's degree in symbolic systems at Stanford University.

--Editing by Aaron Pelc.

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