

New Mayer Brown NYC Leader Sets Course For Expansion

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[Mayer Brown LLP](#) has promoted a 20-year veteran of the firm to partner-in-charge of its New York office as it continues to expand its footprint in the Big Apple.

Matthew Ingber joined the firm as an associate in 1998 and in 2016 was named a Law360 **Banking MVP** for devising a way to settle large numbers of claims resulting from losses on residential mortgage-backed securities. He will be taking the reins from Richard Spehr, who has led Mayer Brown's New York since 2009 and will become the leader of the firm's global litigation and dispute resolution practice, the firm announced Nov. 29.



Matthew Ingber

Mayer Brown has grown its New York office substantially over the past few years, and Ingber told Law360 he plans to continue that momentum. The New York office occupies four floors at 1221 Avenue of the Americas, and Ingber said Mayer Brown has recently completed a long-term lease for another floor, bringing the total footprint to roughly 235,000 square feet.

"The office continues to move in a really positive direction," Ingber said. "It's now the [firm's] second-largest in the U.S. with more than 250 lawyers, and serves as a hub of our global firm — in any given day we have dozens of lawyers from other offices collaborating with our New York colleagues."

Mayer Brown is based in Chicago, where it maintains its largest office. The firm opened its New York office in 1978 with just one lawyer and has grown through a mixture of lateral hires and in-house talent cultivation since then. The New York office **moved to its current digs** in 2015.

The New York office has made several notable lateral hires in the past few years, with former federal prosecutor Daniel L. Stein **joining in 2016**, his former colleague Glen A. Kopp **following suit in January** and experienced corporate and securities lawyers Iliana Kirova and Scott Zemser **coming onboard in February**, among others.

One New York lateral hire didn't go as planned in March, however, when allegations that James R. Tanenbaum had engaged in "inappropriate conduct" at [Morrison & Foerster LLP](#) surfaced just 10 days after he was hired at Mayer Brown and led to his **immediate dismissal**.

Ingber said Mayer Brown "continues to scrutinize our lateral-hiring process to ensure a thorough vetting of lateral candidates, including a review of our background-check process."

Ingber said he doesn't have any concrete plans to bring on new partners at the New York office right now. "We're always talking with people in the lateral marketplace, but growth in New York doesn't come at the expense of growth elsewhere, or at the expense of organic growth," he said.

In general, Ingber said he plans to build on the momentum created by Spehr and "continue his efforts to grow our New York office, with continued focus on our corporate group, while maintaining our culture of cross-practice and cross-office collaboration that has served our global clients well."

--Additional reporting by Zachary Zagger, Danielle Nichole Smith, Jody Godoy, Dorothy Atkins and Sam Reisman. Editing by Alanna Weissman.