

## Eyeing Tech Clients, Mayer Brown Upsizes for New LA Office

By **Daniel Connolly**

*Law360 (December 14, 2022, 5:01 PM EST)* -- Global law firm Mayer Brown LLP has relocated its Los Angeles office to a swanky, bigger space, a move the firm said Wednesday fits with its West Coast expansion plans.



Mayer Brown cut the ribbon earlier this month on a swanky new 55,000-square-foot space at the Wells Fargo Center, located at 333 S. Grand Ave. in downtown Los Angeles. (Mayer Brown)

The firm announced the signing of an 11-year lease on 55,000 square feet at the Wells Fargo Center at 333 S. Grand Avenue in downtown Los Angeles. Since 1985, the firm had occupied a smaller Los Angeles office at nearby 350 S. Grand Avenue.

Mayer Brown held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new space on Dec. 5. Staffers have already moved in, with room for more, according to managing partner of the LA office John Nadolenco, who spoke with Law360 Pulse on Wednesday.

"The move allows us to go from 64 attorney offices to 98 attorney offices, and we have every intention of filling those offices," Nadolenco said. He also said the firm plans to hire "as quickly as we can find the right

talent for our clients."

Nadolenco said the firm's management committee and partnership board made the decision in 2017 to grow on the West Coast. At the time, he was a member of the partnership board and lobbied for the strategy, which he called "near and dear to my heart."

Mayer Brown serves an array of high-profile tech clients, including Facebook, Pandora and eBay.

"And so we're trying to make sure that we are physically present where our clients would need legal help and legal support," Nadolenco said.

The Silicon Valley region of Northern California is home to many of the world's best-known tech companies. The firm is looking to expand in this area, he said, while also noting that the tech industry isn't confined to Northern California.

"You have something called Silicon Slopes, which is, you guessed it, in Salt Lake City," he said, where Mayer Brown opened an office in January.

Nadolenco said Los Angeles itself is increasingly a tech hub, and Mayer Brown isn't the only law firm making office moves in Los Angeles. Cooley LLP recently opened a second office in the Los Angeles area, located in the same Wells Fargo building as Mayer Brown. Cooley LLP has described the location as temporary.

Multiple law firms have likewise expanded throughout California in recent years, with many citing the need to stay close to tech industry companies.

The new Mayer Brown office occupies the 47th and 48th floors of the building and was a "from scratch" build-out designed by architect Mohammed Aref. Visitors stepping out of an elevator are greeted by views of the Griffith Park Observatory, the Hollywood sign and the Pacific Ocean, Nadolenco said.

The office also features an outdoor terrace and multiple collaboration spaces, including a lunch area called Sidebar Commons.

During the recent World Cup soccer game between Argentina and Croatia, for instance, the firm offered Argentine and Croatian food, Nadolenco said.

"And so the whole point is to create an inviting environment where people want to be in the office, people want to get together, they want to collaborate," according to Nadolenco.

The firm is still currently working under a hybrid model. "We'd like to see the attorneys in the office three days a week and two days from home," Nadolenco said.

With 1,109 attorneys in the U.S., including 437 partners, Mayer Brown ranks 23rd in the Law360 400 list of top law firms.

Mayer Brown has offices across the United States and abroad, including as far away as Sao Paulo, Hanoi and Dubai.

--Editing by Dave Trumbore.

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