

## Latham Scores Skadden, Paul Hastings Trial Partners In LA

By **Kat Greene**

*Law360, Los Angeles (February 22, 2017, 10:02 PM EST)* -- Latham & Watkins LLP is bolstering its litigation team in the Los Angeles area, adding a pair of trial lawyers from Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP and Paul Hastings LLP with experience in securities disputes and other high-stakes trials for diverse clients including private equity firms, financial institutions and public companies and their executives, the firm said Wednesday.

Ex-Skaddenite Thomas Nolan and Paul Hastings alum Joshua Hamilton are bringing their extensive expertise and solid reputations as seasoned litigators to Latham as the firm continues to grow its trial capabilities in Southern California, the firm said. The new hires will work out of Latham's Los Angeles and Century City offices, according to the firm.

Both new partners are accomplished trial lawyers who have represented clients across an array of matters, from complex criminal cases to U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission regulatory proceedings to virtually all manner of civil litigation, according to the firm.

Marvin Putnam, local co-chair of the firm's litigation and trial department, said in a statement the new additions come at a perfect time for Latham as the firm builds a "litigation force to be reckoned with" in California. Putnam himself joined the team in 2015 as a high-profile lateral hire from O'Melveny & Myers LLP.

"Tom and Josh add further depth and dynamism to the firm's trial-ready team at a time of rapid market change," Putnam said. "We have the wind at our back and are excited by the opportunities to build the unequalled, market-leading practice in Southern California and nationally."

Nolan is a former federal prosecutor who has built a national commercial litigation practice over the last three decades of work in California and New York, Latham said. His work includes a diverse array of litigation matters including complex civil cases, criminal cases and SEC enforcement matters, according to the firm.



Joshua Hamilton



Thomas Nolan

Hamilton, meanwhile, has focused on litigating securities and complex disputes, including representing public and private companies and their senior executives at trial in securities class actions and shareholder derivative suits, according to the firm.

He has also represented clients including financial institutions and private equity and hedge funds, Latham said.

Jamie Wine, global chair of Latham's litigation and trial unit, said the new additions bolster an already growing team.

"The arrival of these two top-notch trial lawyers ... marks another milestone in the continuing growth of our practice," Wine said in a statement. "Tom and Josh will complement our team well, offering keen commercial instincts, tested courtroom tenacity, impeccable judgment and sound negotiation skills."

The pair join a string of recent new hires by Latham, including Wenchi Hu, who joined the firm's corporate department and financial institutions group earlier this month after leading the SEC's Office of Clearance and Settlement Supervision, and Martin Davies, the first lateral to leave Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP's London office since it opened in 2008.

In January, the firm brought aboard a quintet of former senior energy and environmental officials from the Obama administration, including the overseer of the U.S. Department of the Interior's land management and energy development programs and the top lawyer for the Department of Energy.

--Additional reporting by Dorothy Atkins, Richard Crump and Keith Goldberg. Editing by Aaron Pelc.