

**LAW FIRM GENERAL COUNSEL AND RISK MANAGEMENT FORUM:
*Managing Risks in a Rapidly Changing Market***

London – October 25-26, 2010

Working Agenda

Monday, October 25

8:00 – 8:30am Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 8:45am Welcome and Opening Remarks
Stephen Denyer – Global Markets Partner – Allen & Overy

8:45 – 9:45am Keynote Address

Introduction: James Jones
Chris Perrin, Executive Partner and General Counsel, Clifford Chance LLP

9:45 – 11:00 am The Changing Risk Environment for Law Firms

The risk environment in which law firms practice has changed significantly in recent years, reflecting the growing size and complexity of law firms and an increased willingness on the part of both regulatory authorities and litigants to hold lawyers liable for the activities of their clients. Examples of these developments include the anti-terrorism and money laundering statutes, “whistle blowing” responsibilities imposed on lawyers under the US Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the liabilities imposed on lawyers for involvement in questionable tax shelter schemes, and the growing willingness of courts and governmental authorities to consider liabilities for lawyers whom they regard as “aiding and abetting” fraudulent financial transactions of all sorts. This panel will consider these changes and others on the horizon that are expanding the risks of practice for all lawyers and law firms.

CONFIRMED Presenters:

Martin Checov – General Counsel, O’Melveny & Myers

Janet Henderson - Head of North American Professional Liability, Brit Syndicates

Frank Maher – Legal Risk

11:00 – 11:15am BREAK

11:15 – 12:30pm Emerging Roles of Law Firm General Counsel and Chief Risk Officers

In responding to the changing risk environment that they face, many large law firms have in recent years begun designating general counsels or chief legal officers as an efficient and effective way of managing risk and professional issues. More recently, some firms have begun designating chief risk officers to assume responsibility for managing risks on enterprise-wide basis. This panel will consider these emerging roles looking at such factors as the profile of the “typical” law firm general counsel, the areas over which general counsel typically have principal responsibility and those over which they have secondary responsibility, the relationship of general counsel to firm management, considerations in the compensation of general counsel, and the relationship of general counsel to chief risk officers and others in the firm with risk oversight.

Moderator: James Jones, Hildebrandt Baker Robbins

Anthony Davis, Hinshaw & Culbertson LLP will give a presentation on the topic followed by a commentary from an expert panel.

CONFIRMED Presenters:

Andrew Clark – General Counsel – Allen & Overy

Julia Graham – Chief Risk Officer – DLA Piper UK

12:30 – 2:00pm **LUNCH**

Introduction: Stephen Denyer

Luncheon Speaker: David Edmonds – Chair – Legal Services Board

2:00-2:15pm **BREAK**

2:15- 3:45pm **Establishing Effective Business Acceptance Systems**

Many claims against law firms can be traced to “problem clients” – *i.e.*, to individuals or organizations that should never have been accepted as clients of the firm in the first place. To prevent the problems caused by these unwanted clients requires effective business acceptance systems that are designed to identify potential conflicts (of both an ethical and business variety), to screen out unsuitable and inappropriate clients (including by operation of the applicable anti-terrorism and money laundering statutes), and to identify those new clients that may fall outside the firm’s strategic or business focus. (This panel will consider the key elements necessary for an effective business acceptance system, including the review and approval processes essential to make such a system work.

Moderator: Anthony Davis

CONFIRMED Presenters:

Simon Fuge – Head of Business Acceptance – Allen & Overy

3:45 - 4:00pm **BREAK**

4:00 – 5:00pm **The Challenges of Cross-Border Conflicts**

Many modern law firms operate on a global basis, with matters that span multiple jurisdictions. One of the most common and perplexing problems that frequently arises in these cases is the issue of cross-border conflicts, because what constitutes a conflict often differs from one jurisdiction to another. A classic example is the US rule that prohibits a law firm that is currently representing a client on a particular matter from representing another client on *any* matter that is adverse to the first client, even if the matter is wholly unrelated to the initial representation. This highly restrictive view of “conflicts” is markedly different from the rules in most of the rest of the world. This panel will focus on how firms can best manage these situations and protect themselves from violating the rules in the various jurisdictions in which they practice.

Moderator: Stephen Denyer

CONFIRMED Presenters:

Jennifer Paradise – Assistant General Counsel – White & Case

5:00 – 6:00pm **Cocktail Reception**

Tuesday, October 26

8:00 – 8:30am Continental Breakfast

8:30 – 9:45am Changing Services Delivery Models: Opportunities and Risks

The economic downturn that the legal industry has experienced for the past couple of years has led to what many say represents a permanent shift toward a “buyer’s market” for legal services in which clients will increasingly demand more efficient and cost effective delivery of services at all levels. In response, many firms have set about experimenting with, and even redesigning their basic pricing models, legal work process and staffing models, project management structures, infrastructure and support systems (including outsourcing), and talent management models. This panel will focus on both the opportunities and risks attendant on this significant shift away from the traditional law firm model of doing business.

Moderator: Anthony Davis]

CONFIRMED Presenters:

Stephen Mayson – Professor of Strategy and Director of Legal Services Policy Institute – The College of Law of England and Wales

Bruce MacMillan – General Counsel – Legal Services Board

Neville Eisenberg – Managing Partner – Berwin Leighton Paisner

9:45 – 10:00am BREAK

10:00 – 11:15am The Impact of Evolving Technology on the Law Firm Risk Environment

The new business models that law firms are developing are often driven by new technologies. New methods for client self-help and on-line legal guidance (through automated compliance, diagnostic, or document assembly systems), for increased connectivity (through shared work spaces and project monitoring tools), for better management of project workflow, for training and professional development (through various “just-in-time” user-friendly systems), for accepting and responding to client requests, and for assisting clients in building systems that help prevent legal problems rather than simply dealing with them after the fact are all now readily available, and are increasingly more effective and reliable. This panel will discuss the impact of these evolving technologies on risk management, including the redefinition of the lawyer-client relationship, the problems of supervision and quality assurance, the obligations created by certain “open sourcing” models, and the evolving role of the individual practitioner.

Moderator: James Jones, Co-Managing Director, Hildebrandt Baker Robbins

CONFIRMED Presenters:

John Flood – Professor of Law and Sociology – Westminster University

Juliet Tainui-Hernandez - Director of Risk and Compliance, Addleshaw Goddard LLP

11:15 am – 12:00pm Concluding Remarks
Introduction: Stephen Denyer

Closing Speaker:

Robert Heslett, Immediate Past President of the Law Society of England and Wales