

Continuing Legal Education Attendance Affidavit
2024 Midyear Meeting

Program Location: Anantara The Marker Dublin, Dublin, Ireland

Program Dates: May 16 & 17, 2024

Program Fee: \$1,795

Date	Session Title	Time	Hours Awarded	Hours Completed
Thursday, 5/16/2024	Session 1 Global Diplomacy Keynote	2:00-3:00 p.m.	1.0	
	Session 2 #RAPIDiNSIGHTS > Beyond the Click: Exploring the Intersections of Targeted Advertising and Privacy Regulations	3:00-3:20 p.m.	0.25	
	Session 3 #RAPIDiNSIGHTS > Keeping It Real: The Challenge of Authenticity in the Deepfake Era	3:20-3:40 p.m.	0.25	
	Session 4 International Dispute Dynamics: Navigating Arbitration vs. Litigation	4:00-5:00 p.m.	1.0	
Friday, 5/17/2024	Session 5 The Intersection of Business of Law and Technology	9:00-10:00 a.m.	1.0	
	Session 6 Navigating Excellence: Insights from Legal Industry Leaders	10:00-11:00 a.m.	1.0	
	Session 7 Merging Wolds: M&A Activity and Trends	11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.	1.0	
	Session 8 Legal Practices in Higher Education Worldwide	1:30-2:15 p.m.	0.5	
	Session 9 Cybersecurity Insights: Lessons Learned from Law Firm Breaches	2:15-2:45 p.m.	0.5	
	Session 10 Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Excellence: Implementing Best Practices for Maximum Impact	2:45-3:30 p.m.	0.5	
	Session 11 #RAPIDiNSIGHTS > Rebuilding Ukraine: Advancements in Energy and Infrastructure Development	3:30-3:50 p.m.	0.5	

	Session 12 #RAPIDINSIGHTS >Insider’s View: Navigating Israeli Business Environment Amidst Political Changes	4:10-4:30 p.m.	0.5	
	Session 12 Political Dynamics: U.S. Elections and the Shifting Political Landscape	4:30-5:30 p.m.	1.0	
Date(s) Attended:		Total Hours Attended:		

Attorney Name:

State:

Bar Member No.:

Reporting Period:

Firm Name

Firm Address:

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the above information is complete and accurate.

Attorney

Signature:

Date:

Copy



Date:

May 17, 2024

Received By:

Alina Gorokhovsky, CEO, SCG Legal

WEDNESDAY, 15 MAY

19:00 – 21:00
Local Restaurants **EARLY ARRIVALS NO HOST DINNERS**
 If you are arriving in time for dinner, SCG Legal will coordinate the opportunity for you to dine with fellow network members from around the globe. Please contact Membership Coordinator Erin Kane (ekane@scglegal.com) to be included in reservations.

THURSDAY, 16 MAY

8:00 – 17:00
Marker Conf Reception Area **WELCOME DESK | CHECK-IN & ON-SITE REGISTRATION**

8:30 – 11:30
Beauchamps **MEETING | BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

10:00 – 11:30
Shannon Room **PRACTICE GROUP MEETING | MERGERS & ACQUISITION (M&A)**
All M&A attorneys are welcome to attend.

11:30 – 13:00
Forbes Street **INFORMAL NETWORKING LUNCH | CATCH UP WITH SCG LEGAL'S BOARD & TEAM**
 Please join us for this pre-event networking lunch, especially if it is your first SCG Legal meeting. **Advance registration is not required.**

11:45 – 13:00
Shannon Room **PRACTICE GROUP WORKING LUNCH | LITIGATION**
All Litigation attorneys are welcome to attend.

13:00 – 13:30
Marker Conf Reception Area **CATCH UP WITH MEMBERS | COFFEE, CONFECTIONS & CONNECTIONS**

13:30 – 14:00
Marker Conf Room **WELCOME & OPENING REMARKS**

- Paul Plunkett, Larkin Hoffman (US: Minnesota) | Chair, SCG Legal
- Alina Gorokhovskiy | CEO, SCG Legal
- John White, Beauchamps (Ireland) | Board Member, SCG Legal

14:00 – 15:00
Marker Conf Room **GLOBAL DIPLOMACY KEYNOTE | FIRESIDE CHAT WITH BERTIE AHERN, FORMER IRISH TAOISEACH (PRIME MINISTER) & LIZ O'DONNELL, FORMER GOVERNMENT MINISTER OF STATE**

- John White, Beauchamps (Ireland)

15:00 – 15:20
Marker Conf Room **#RAPIDINSIGHTS | BEYOND THE CLICK: EXPLORING THE INTERSECTIONS OF TARGETED ADVERTISING AND PRIVACY REGULATIONS**

- Frederik Kromann Jespersen, Skau Reipurth (Denmark)

15:20 – 15:40
Marker Conf Room **#RAPIDINSIGHTS | KEEPING IT REAL: THE CHALLENGE OF AUTHENTICITY IN THE DEEPPFAKE ERA**

- Darren Cahr, Scharf Banks Marmor (US: Chicago, IL)

- 15:40 – 16:00
Marker Conf
Reception Area
- NETWORKING BREAK**
- 16:00 – 17:00
Marker
Conf Room
- SESSION | INTERNATIONAL DISPUTE DYNAMICS: NAVIGATING ARBITRATION vs. LITIGATION**
- Arbitration and litigation stand as prominent methods frequently delineated in dispute resolution clauses. Despite their shared objective – to resolve disputes – these processes diverge fundamentally. This session will offer valuable insights into the nuanced intricacies of each method, providing practical perspectives for effective dispute resolution strategies.
- **Guillermo Bayas Fernández, AGM Abogados (Spain)**
 - **Mark Davison, Mills & Reeve (UK)**
 - **Verónica Esquivel-Patiño, Sánchez Devanny (Mexico)**
 - **Porfírio Moreira, Ferreira Pinto Cardigos (Portugal)**
 - **Thomas O'Dwyer, Beauchamps (Ireland)**
- 17:00
- ADJOURN**
- 17:45 – 18:15
Beauchamps
- MEETUP | WOMEN IN LAW**
- 18:15 – 19:15
Beauchamps
- WELCOME RECEPTION | ALL MEMBERS**
- 19:30 – 21:30
Local Restaurants
- NO HOST DINNERS | ALL MEMBERS**
- SCG Legal organizes No Host Dinners at local restaurants to encourage networking and foster fellowship while enjoying the culture of our host city. If you have opted in for this activity, please refer to your calendar invite for details related to your specific dinner reservation. Restaurant details are also available in the SCG Mobile App under Events > 2024 Midyear Meeting: Dublin > Venues. [If you did not receive an invitation to participate or a reservation confirmation, please contact Membership Coordinator Erin Kane (ekane@scglegal.com).]

FRIDAY, 17 MAY

- 8:00 – 17:00
Marker Conf
Reception Area
- WELCOME DESK | CHECK-IN & ON-SITE REGISTRATION**
- 8:00 – 9:00
Forbes Street
- NETWORKING BREAKFAST**
- 9:00 – 10:00
Marker
Conf Room
- SESSION | THE INTERSECTION OF BUSINESS OF LAW AND TECHNOLOGY**
- From the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to automating repetitive tasks, the practice of law is not what it used to be...and there is no turning back. The impacts of new technologies in the legal industry are now being experienced everywhere. A November 2023 Wolters Kluwer's Future Ready Lawyer Report

notes that 73% of lawyers globally are either using AI or expect to be using AI in the next 12 months, indicating a willingness to embrace a wide range of technologies to practice law more efficiently. This session will focus on the intersection of technology and law, explaining how innovative tech platforms can offer more sophisticated professional development and business development opportunities.

- **Shane Branagan, Thread Legal Software (Ireland)**
- **Alina Gorokhovskiy, SCG Legal (US: Washington, DC)**
- **Duane Pozza, Wiley (US: Washington, DC)**
- **Simon Thompson, Mills & Reeve (UK)**

10:00 – 11:00

*Marker
 Conf Room*

SESSION | NAVIGATING EXCELLENCE: INSIGHTS FROM LEGAL INDUSTRY LEADERS

Esteemed leaders from global law firms will offer their perspectives on a range of topics from navigating the landscape of innovation to administrative excellence to transformative cultural shifts within firms as well as address challenges prevalent in the legal industry. This discussion will include a strategic perspective on environmental, social, and governance (ESG) programs; optimal practices for managing hybrid workforces; initiatives to foster diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI); establishment of meaningful community partnerships; and a review of programs and events recently launched or enhanced that bolster and support mentorship and professional development activities with firms.

- **Wayne Egan, WeirFoulds (Canada: Ontario)**
- **Douglas Gold, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp (US: Los Angeles, CA)**
- **Ooi Bee Hong, Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (Malaysia)**
- **Justin Ripman, Mills & Reeve (UK)**

11:00 – 11:15

*Marker Conf
 Reception Area*

NETWORKING BREAK

11:15 – 12:15

*Marker
 Conf Room*

SESSION | MERGING WORLDS: M&A ACTIVITY AND TRENDS

Despite a recent dip in overall M&A activity, the landscape has seen a resurgence, signaling opportunities for growth via a business and legal tool that has become pivotal for companies looking to broaden their market reach. This session will offer an insightful discussion about the latest trends in M&A while addressing key considerations and challenges companies encounter in these ventures. Gain valuable insights on navigating the complexities of cross-border deals and strategies for successful deal management.

- **Laura Gilbride, PwC Ireland**
- **Debby McKey-Durán, Sánchez Devanny (Mexico)**
- **Shaun O'Shea, Beauchamps (Ireland)**

12:15 – 13:30

Forbes Street

NETWORKING LUNCH

13:30 – 14:15

*Marker
 Conf Room*

SESSION | LEGAL PRACTICES IN HIGHER EDUCATION WORLDWIDE

The higher education sector is one of the world's largest global industries, characterized by ongoing collaborations and investments among the Asia-Pacific, U.S., and Europe. Educational institutions uniquely straddle the realms of public, private, and nonprofit sectors, giving rise to a distinctive set of legal and regulatory challenges. This session will delve into the unique legal landscape shaping higher education institutions worldwide.

Discussion points will include an exploration of legal structures and regulations influencing these institutions, shedding light on crucial aspects such as international partnerships, collaborations, and joint academic initiatives as well as the legal considerations surrounding digital and online learning initiatives.

- **Vinita Bahri-Mehra, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter (US: Ohio)**
- **Pat McInerney, Beauchamps (Ireland)**
- **Martin Priestley, Mills & Reeve (UK)**
- **Maxime Seno, Veil Jourde (France)**

14:15 – 14:45

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Conf Room

FIRESIDE CHAT | CYBERSECURITY INSIGHTS: LESSONS LEARNED FROM LAW FIRM BREACHES

- **Erika Carrasco, Field Law (Canada: Alberta)**
- **Stephan Menzemer, GvW Graf von Westphalen (Germany)**

14:45 – 15:30

Marker

Conf Room

SESSION | DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION EXCELLENCE: IMPLEMENTING BEST PRACTICES FOR MAXIMUM IMPACT

- **Michele Bisceglie, SCG Legal (US: Washington, D.C.)**
- **Celeste Bruce, Rifkin Weiner Livingston (US: Maryland)**
- **Sophia Makris, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas)**
- **Tom Pickthorn, Mills & Reeve (UK)**

15:30 – 15:50

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Conf Room

#RAPIDiNSIGHTS | REBUILDING UKRAINE: ADVANCEMENTS IN ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

- **Sergiy Oberkovych, GOLAW (Ukraine)**

15:50 – 16:10

Marker Conf

Reception Area

NETWORKING BREAK

16:10 – 16:30

Marker

Conf Room

#RAPIDiNSIGHTS | INSIDER'S VIEW: NAVIGATING ISRAELI BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AMIDST POLITICAL CHALLENGES

- **Stephen Barak Rozen, Amit, Pollak, Matalon & Co (Israel)**

16:30 – 17:30

Marker

Conf Room

SESSION | POLITICAL DYNAMICS: U.S. ELECTIONS AND THE SHIFTING POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

This session will feature a vibrant discussion unraveling the intricate connections between U.S. elections and the ever-evolving global political scene. Delving into the profound impacts of political shifts, the conversation will expand to examine how changes in political parties in the US resonate within the global business community. Gain valuable insights into the complex interplay that shapes global political and economic landscapes.

- **Don Bolia, Peachtree Government Relations (US: Georgia)**
- **Chad Causey, Rose Law Firm (US: Arkansas)**
- **Steve Tugend, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter (US: Ohio)**
- **Alice van der Schee, Van Benthem & Keulen (The Netherlands)**

17:30 **CLOSING SESSION & REMARKS**

18:30 **TRANSPORTATION TO RECEPTION & CLOSING BANQUET**

Departs from lobby of Anantara The Marker Dublin Hotel

18:45 – 22:00 **RECEPTION & CLOSING BANQUET**

*The Shelbourne
Hotel Great Room*

The Shelbourne Hotel is a historic hotel situated in a landmark building on the north side of St Stephen's Green, one of the largest green squares in Europe. It was named for William Petty, 2nd Earl of Shelburne. In 1922, the Constitution of the Irish Free State was drafted in room 112, now known as The Constitution Room. The facade was refurbished in 2016, winning an award from the Irish Georgian Society.

SCG Legal Extends Its Appreciation to Host Firm
Beauchamps

for its Generous Support & Hospitality!

Thank You to Our Sponsor



Registration Open

[2024 Annual Meeting in Los Angeles, CA \(U.S.\) ❖ September 19 – 20](#)

Future In-Person Meetings: Save the Details

2025

Midyear Meeting in Barcelona (Spain) ❖ May 15 – 16
Annual Meeting in Austin, TX (U.S.) ❖ September 18 – 19

2026

Midyear Meeting in Melbourne (Australia) ❖ March 19 – 20
Annual Meeting in Washington, DC (US) ❖ Dates TBA

Bertie Ahern, former Irish Taoiseach (Prime Minister): Bertie Ahern was first elected to the Dáil (Parliament) in 1977 and served thirty-four years as a Public Representative. He was appointed Government Chief Whip and Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach and the Department of Defense in March 1982. Between 1983 – 1987 he served as opposition spokesperson for Labour and the Public Service and on the Party Front Bench. In 1983 he was elected Vice President of his political party Fianna Fáil and to the Party National Executive where he served for twenty-five years as Vice President, Treasurer, and President until 2008. He was appointed Minister for Labour from March 1987 and again in March 1989 and was the longest serving minister in that post. Appointed Minister for Finance in November 1991 and re-appointed on two further occasions. His Ministerial career also includes being Tánaiste (Deputy Prime Minister), Minister for Arts, Culture & the Gaeltacht and Minister of Industry and Commerce for short periods. At City of Dublin level, he was a member of the City Council from the late 1970s and served as Lord Mayor of Dublin in 1986/1987. He chaired the Management Committee of Dublin Millennium from 1986–1989. In November 1994 he was elected President and Leader of his party Fianna Fáil. He served as leader of the opposition from December 1994 to the summer of 1997. He was first elected Taoiseach in June 1997 and served a full five-year term being re-elected in 2002 and 2007, the first Taoiseach to achieve that distinction in a generation.

Vinita Bahri-Mehra, Director + Leader, Global Business Practice, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter (US: Ohio): Vinita serves as leader of the firm’s Global Business practice and is qualified and licensed to practice law in both Ohio and India. She is dedicated to serving the incoming surge of inbound and outbound foreign investment involving the Asian-Pacific market. Vinita understands the legal landscape throughout the Asia-Pacific region, which is paramount to effectively advising global businesses with current or planned operations in China, India, Japan, Indonesia, South Korea and Vietnam, among other key Asian markets. She counsels corporate clients and higher education institutions regarding a broad range of complex national and international corporate transactions and intellectual property issues.

Stephen Barak Rozen, Partner, Amit, Pollak, Matalon & Co. (Israel): Stephen is a member of the firm’s High Tech and Venture Capital practice and chairs the Food-Tech and Ag-Tech practice. He also leads the firm’s relationships with law firms around the world as Head of International Relationships. Stephen’s practice focuses on both buy and sell-side mergers and acquisitions, equity financing transactions, private equity and venture capital funds, and general corporate matters.

Guillermo Bayas Fernández, Partner, AGM Abogados (Spain): Guillermo’s experience focuses on complex civil and commercial litigation (court and arbitration), specifically in cross-border international matters. He is also a professor of International Litigation and Negotiation in the Master’s Degree in Law at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra.

Ooi Bee Hong, Partner, Rosli Dahlan Saravana Partnership (Malaysia): Ooi Bee Hong leads the firm’s Corporate Department, frequently advising on mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, commercial agreements, property development, company law, corporate restructuring, and real estate.

Michele Bisceglie, Director, Business Development and Strategic Initiatives, SCG Legal (US: Washington, DC): Michele has three decades of experience executing multifaceted business development, marketing, communications, sales, and/or fundraising initiatives for entities such as Legal Sales & Service Organization, LawVision, CEO Connection, McKenna Long & Aldridge LLP (now Dentons), Nixon Peabody LLP, Wiley LLP, Historic Charleston Foundation, Jekyll Island Foundation, Boy Scouts of America, ClubCorp (now Invited), Leadership Louisville Center, and SchenkelShultz Architecture.

Don Bolia, Principal, Peachtree Government Relations (US: Georgia): Don is the firm’s founder and principal. He provides industry leaders with strategic advice on legislative trends and assists them in shaping policy debates at the state, federal, and local levels in Georgia. Don manages clients’ relationships before the Georgia General Assembly, as well as numerous city and county governments and agencies. His background and experience offer clients an edge in conducting business with local governments.

Shane Branagan, Chief Executive Officer, Thread Legal Software (Ireland): Shane has been at the forefront of legal technology innovation since July 2019. Under his leadership, Thread Legal Software has become a pivotal player in the legal case and file management landscape, integrating seamlessly with Microsoft's suite of products including Office 365, OneDrive, SharePoint, and Teams. This integration ensures that legal professionals can manage their cases, documents, clients, and more through a single, efficient dashboard.

Celeste Bruce, Partner, Rifkin Weiner Livingston, (US: Maryland): Celeste is co-chair of the firm's Complex Civil and Commercial Litigation practice and has 30 years of experience in broad-based commercial and complex civil litigation in state and federal courts and before administrative and arbitral tribunals. Her experience includes litigating commercial, business, stockholder, and partnership disputes and dissolutions, land use and zoning matters, contract disputes, fraud and fraudulent transfers, commercial bankruptcy adversarial proceedings, preferences disputes, derivative claims, employment disputes, appeals and appellate practice, and regulatory and agency adversary proceedings.

Darren Cahr, Partner, Scharf Banks Marmor (US: Chicago, IL): Darren concentrates his practice on intellectual property and advertising law, helping clients develop, protect, and defend their most critical intangible rights, marketing practices, and competitive positioning. Darren has built a national reputation as a valued courtroom advocate, boardroom counselor, thought leader, and everyday advisor on cutting edge intellectual property issues, branding, false and comparative advertising, corporate identity, consumer promotions, and the legal implications of social media and new technology.

Erika Carrasco, Partner, Field Law (Canada: Alberta): Erika helps clients navigate the dynamic legal, business, and insurance landscape of emerging technologies, including drones, cyber security, autonomous vehicles, blockchain, and AI. She works with clients to develop effective legal strategies to meet specific needs and goals and understands the stakes of litigation and its impact on reputation and business operations. In providing proactive risk management advice to her clients, Erika helps minimize the likelihood of future disputes.

Chad Causey, Member, Rose Law Firm (US: Arkansas): Chad's expertise is in federal and state issues and their impacts on businesses. He works with Fortune 500 companies, farmers, and everyday Arkansans. Chad began his career serving in Washington as Chief of Staff to a Member of Congress and as liaison to the House Appropriations Committee. During his tenure in the House of Representatives, he worked on several key policy initiatives, including appropriations, agriculture, healthcare, energy, tax, and infrastructure funding.

Mark Davison, Partner, Mills & Reeve (UK): Mark is an experienced arbitration and litigation practitioner based in the firm's London office. Over the past decade, he has worked with clients in jurisdictions and different forums around the world to help them to resolve disputes. This has included acting for clients in multiple international arbitrations under a variety of different rules such as ICC, LCIA, DIAC, SCC and ad hoc.

Wayne Egan, Co-Managing Partner, WeirFoulds (Canada: Ontario): Wayne is experienced in advising private and public corporations on various financing and regulatory matters, including initial public offerings, private placements, mergers and acquisitions, reorganizations, and stock exchange listing applications. Wayne couples his deep understanding of the highly technical and complex nature of securities law with his ability to provide clients with clear guidance and easy to understand advice in a timely and efficient manner.

Verónica Esquivel-Patiño, Partner, Sánchez Devanny (Mexico): Verónica is a senior associate in the Civil and Commercial Litigation and Alternative Dispute Resolution practice group, representing clients in judicial proceedings, arbitration, and before negotiators. She is the current regional coordinator for Latin America of the International Chamber of Commerce's Young Arbitrators Forum (ICC YAF) and current chair of the ICC Mexico's Young Arbitrators Committee.

Laura Gilbride, Partner, PwC Ireland: Laura has more than 10 years of experience across M&A, finance, transformation projects, and client advisory. During her time in industry and practice, Laura worked on a number of successful high-profile transactions and projects within the financial services and manufacturing industries working closely with and supporting clients, senior management and operations.

Douglas Gold, Chief Operating Officer, Mitchell Silberberg & Knupp LLP (US: Los Angeles, CA): Doug has spent the last 20 years, since graduating with a degree in Finance from Santa Clara University, working in a variety of industries, including software, banking, non-profit, professional services and manufacturing on diverse transactions, ranging from an IPO to venture financings to acquisitions and sales operations. He has worked for companies ranging in size from pre-revenue to \$700 million and pre-IPO to public, exposing him to enterprises going through business reorganization, start-up phases and high-growth scaling.

Alina Gorokhovskiy, Chief Executive Officer, SCG Legal (US: Washington, DC): Alina has more than 25 years of diverse U.S. and international experience building and leading creative service-oriented operations, marketing and business development teams, developing and executing global strategic business plans, managing social media campaigns, and designing targeted and innovative brand campaigns and marketing programs. As one of the legal industry's first chief strategy officers, Alina is recognized as a tactical thought leader skilled in identifying opportunities for significant ROI through new products and services, focused client outreach campaigns, and strategies linked to metrics-driven branding, business development, social media, digital marketing, public relations, and community engagement efforts.

Frederik Kromann Jespersen, Partner, Skau Reipurth (Denmark): Frederik specializes in commercial litigation and international arbitration, and he heads the firm's Specialized Dispute Resolution department. Frederik acts as legal counsel to Danish as well as international clients in disputes of various kinds, including particularly disputes concerning commercial contracts, intellectual property law, marketing practices, competition, management liability, product liability as well as corporate criminal liability.

Sophia Makris, Partner, McGinnis Lochridge (US: Texas): As both an Aggie and a Longhorn graduate, Sophia prides herself in bridging the gap between parties to find solutions for her clients. Her legal practice focuses on a wide variety of transactions including mergers and acquisitions, financing, and commercial real estate matters. Additionally, she advises clients throughout their development, from entity formation and corporate governance to advising clients as outside corporate counsel. She is a member of the firm's Women's Initiative Committee and Diversity Committee, where she serves as liaison to the Austin Bar Association Diversity Fellowship Program.

Pat McInerney, Partner, Beauchamps (Ireland): Pat heads up the public & regulatory team, specializing in public administrative law, regulation and compliance, litigation and dispute resolution, procurement, data and intellectual property. Pat has particular expertise in the public administrative and regulatory law spheres, having acted for public sector clients for many years. He advises on all aspects of regulatory law and compliance, public administrative law, statutory interpretation, corporate governance, ethics, freedom of information and data protection issues.

Debby McKey-Durán, Partner, Sánchez Devanny (Mexico): Debby has more than 15 years of experience advising on cross-border, multi-jurisdictional, and domestic mergers and acquisitions (stock and asset deals), divestitures, corporate restructuring, joint ventures, including private equity deals, as well as financing and setting up of collateral. Her work includes advising investors and companies in different industry sectors on their day-to-day legal needs, including corporate and commercial matters related to their set-up and/or incorporation in Mexico as well as corporate governance matters.

Stephan Menzemer, Partner, GvW Graf von Westphalen (Germany): Stephan heads the IP, IT and media practice group and is one of the leading IT lawyers in Germany. His experience and expertise include many years of working with the private and public sectors, from start-ups to DAX companies.

Porfirio Moreira, Partner, Ferreira Pinto Cardigos (Portugal): Porfirio's practice focus on litigation and arbitration, EU law and competition, and employment. Porfirio acts on behalf of public and private entities in complex disputes, often transnational, including on competition, civil, commercial, financial and employment law. He has intervened as counsel in merger control procedures, and competition-related investigations, both at a national and EU level.

Sergiy Oberkovych, Senior Partner, GOLAW (Ukraine): Sergiy is recognized as one of the leading professionals in business law in Ukraine, including banking & finance, foreign investments, energy and natural resources. He has extensive experience in representing financial institutions and corporate entities of all types and sizes from various sectors of the finance industry.

Liz O'Donnell, former Government Minister (Ireland): Liz was first elected to Dáil Éireann in 1992. She served as Progressive Democrats TD for Dublin South for fifteen years. During that time, she served as Minister of State at the Department of Foreign Affairs (1997-2002) and was on the Irish Government team in the multi-party talks leading to the Good Friday Agreement in 1998. Liz was also Minister of State with responsibility for the Irish Aid programme and Human Rights and oversaw a significant increase of the Irish aid budget. Liz served on the Foreign Affairs Committee, British Irish Parliamentary Body. She was Deputy Leader of the Progressive Democrats when she retired from politics in 2007.

Thomas O'Dwyer, Partner, Beauchamps (Ireland): Thomas leads the firm's crisis management and white-collar crime practices. He works with Irish and international businesses across all sectors, financial institutions and state bodies. He specializes in complex commercial disputes and has particular experience advising financial institutions and corporate clients involved in claims for professional negligence, breach of contract, security enforcement, judicial review and property disputes.

Shaun O'Shea, Partner, Beauchamps (Ireland): Shaun is head of the Corporate, Commercial & M&A group. Shaun works closely with Irish and international clients across a wide spectrum of industry sectors advising on the full range of business law issues that arise. Shaun's main area of expertise is corporate transactions, including advising on mergers, disposals and acquisitions, private equity transactions, corporate reorganizations, joint ventures and equity investments.

Tom Pickthorn, Partner + Head of International, Mills & Reeve (UK): Tom leads the International practice and is a corporate partner, advising on M&A transactions, equity investments, ECM matters and restructuring. As Head of International, he works globally to manage strong relationships with SCG member firms. Last year the team supported clients in over 75 countries including USA, Germany, France, China, India and Australia.

Paul Plunkett, Shareholder, Larkin Hoffman (US: Minnesota) | Chair, SCG Legal: Paul practices in the areas of corporate, commercial and business law and has extensive experience in mergers and acquisitions, financing transactions, business organization, development and planning, shareholder matters, contract matters, and manufacturing and product distribution matters.

Duane Pozza, Partner, Wiley (US: Washington, DC): Duane helps clients navigate complex legal and regulatory matters involving privacy, consumer protection, and data governance, with a focus on regulation involving emerging technology including artificial intelligence (AI). He successfully handles Federal Trade Commission (FTC) inquiries and advocates before the agency, in addition to representing clients dealing with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) and state agencies. He counsels clients on privacy law, advertising law, competition, and consumer financial laws and regulations, including advising on litigation matters, and has significant experience in financial technology (fintech), payments, digital assets, and AI.

Martin Priestley, Partner, Mills & Reeve (UK): Martin leads the education sector team and heads the Southeast Asia Desk. Martin specializes in advising clients in the education, government and technology sectors on major sourcing, collaborative and strategic commercial projects. Much of Martin's work is cross-border and includes helping universities to implement their international strategies and guiding government and corporate clients through complex procurement projects.

Justin Ripman, Partner, Mills & Reeve (UK): Justin is a private tax and trust expert with a particular focus on advising landed estates. He is also one of the firm's complaints partners. Justin acts for a large number of landed estates across the UK, providing overall strategic advice, complex tax planning in areas such as heritage property and development land consortia, and the structuring of sophisticated trust reorganizations. Further, his practice frequently focusses on achieving a smooth transition for families at a time of inter-generational change.

Maxime Seno, Partner, Veil Jourde (France): Maxime assists a wide range of clients – French and foreign – in their relations with authorities for applications for authorizations or applications for structural projects (public procurement, aid programs, etc.), administrative controls (withdrawal of authorizations, economic sanctions, etc.), or exceptional problems (validation of the regulatory compliance of new products/projects, transfer of portfolios of authorizations and administrative contracts, analysis of the liability of the public authorities).

Simon Thompson, Chief Technology Officer, Mills & Reeve (UK): Simon has almost forty years of experience in the IT industry, thirty of which have been spent in various leadership and consulting roles within the legal and general professional services sector. He is recognized for driving change in the legal sector and specializes in innovation through technology, process improvement and organizational design.

Steve Tugend, Director + Chair, Government Affairs Practice, Kegler Brown Hill + Ritter (US: Ohio): Steve chairs the firm's Government Affairs legal practice where he zealously lobbies at the federal, state and local levels for his clients. During his tenure at the firm, he has successfully lobbied for decreased regulation on manufacturers, fought to preserve the ability of Transportation Improvement Districts (TIDs) to efficiently advance economic development projects and has brought clients' priorities to Washington, DC, securing legislative support.

John White, Managing Partner, Beauchamps (Ireland): John is responsible for delivering on the firm's strategy which is to be market leader in Ireland in the firm's chosen sectors. He has overseen significant growth in the firm and expansion in the range of legal services provided by the firm. In addition, John continues to work closely with Irish and international businesses in the waste, retail and hotel & leisure sectors and specializes in mergers and acquisitions, corporate finance, corporate re-organizations and restructurings and general commercial matters.