40 UNDER 40

Introducing the second edition of the 40 Under 40, GIR's list of 40 accomplished young investigations lawyers who will help shape the future of this fast-evolving area of law.

With the 40 Under 40, GIR wants to shine a spotlight on up-and-coming individuals who don't always get the kind of recognition that their more established peers do. But while the idea behind 40 Under 40 is simple, choosing the final list was far from easy.

After asking for nominations in April, we found ourselves inundated with applications from a talented and experienced crop of young practitioners.

To help us choose the final 40, we asked lawyers to submit a brief summary of their career and three references – one from a client, one from a senior colleague and another of their choosing.

GIR received responses from Palo Alto to New Delhi and many places in between. Applicants referenced their roles on landmark cases, and submitted recommendations from some of the industry's biggest names.

To choose the final 40, GIR considered the cases that nominees worked on, the jurisdictions they practised in and the references that were submitted on their behalf.

We aimed to present a diverse group of individuals from a wide range of jurisdictions and firms. After whittling down over 100 applications we ended up with a list of 17 women and 23 men from 11 countries.

GIR set out to introduce the individuals both as professionals and people, so the final 40 were asked a variety of questions about their career highlights, inspirations, major investigations developments in their jurisdictions and more.

Lawyers recount tales from the front lines of investigations, such as assignments where employees escaped out of windows with laptops, and trips that included drinking fermented horse milk in Kazakhstan or being stalked by hungry baboons in Zambia.

We also put the next generation of the investigations bar on the spot by asking "what's next" in investigations in their respective jurisdictions. The answers ranged from making investigations more efficient by using artificial intelligence to discussions around the future of legal privilege.

Matthew Alexander
Mayer Brown

Lily Becker
Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe

Marc Alain Bohn
Miller & Chevalier Chartered

Shaul Brazil
BCL Solicitors

Dorina Bruns
Hogan Lovells

Louis Burrus
Schellenberg Wittmer

Jonathan Clark
Slaughter and May

Kyle Clark
Baker Botts

Ilaria Curti
DLA Piper

Michael Diamant
Gibson Dunn

Stéphane de Navacelle
Navacelle Law

Mauricio España
Dechert

Alison Geary
WilmerHale

Kunal Gupta
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas

Stephen Hauss
Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan

Emma Hodges
Forensic Risk Alliance

Audrey Laning Ingram
Richards Kibbe & Orbe

Ryan Junck
Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom

Laura Kabler Oswell
Sullivan & Cromwell

Kiran Raj
O'Melveny & Myers

Mark Lanpher
Shearman & Sterling

Anne Lefever
Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman

Edward Liva
Kirkland & Ellis

Hugo López Coll
Greenberg Traurig

Sonja Maeder Morvant
Lalive

Jonathan Mattout
Herbert Smith Freehills

Alex Parker
Debevoise & Plimpton

Anthony Rapa
Steptoe & Johnson

Kim Rosenberg
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer

Erica Sarubbi
Maeda Ayres & Sarubbi Advogados

Tine Schauenburg
White & Case

Nathan Seltzer
Latham & Watkins

Andrew Smith
Corker Binning

Camila Steinhoff
Trench Rossi Watanabe Advogados

Anahita Thoms
Baker McKenzie

Emmanuel Ubiñas
Jones Day

Johanna Walsh
Kingsley Napley

Alison Wilson
Linklaters

David (Dj) Wolff
Crowell & Moring

Mimi Yang
Ropes & Gray

Louis Burrus
Schellenberg Wittmer
Geneva
35



Why investigations?
My area of practice continuously has a lot of variety – not just by nature, but additionally by its multitude of jurisdictions. Investigations work additionally means using, and having a strong grasp of, technology – something I have always felt particularly interested in. I have acquired a deep understanding of the application of technologies to litigation/investigation matters (in particular e-discovery, analytics tools and predictive coding.) Working in investigations has enabled me to develop this skill.

Career highlight
There has not been one specific highlight - but many small and frequent victories and successes that have made my work very enjoyable and challenging. I view all my cases and clients as opportunities to highlight my career.

Influences
My wife, Catherine Anne Kunz, who also happens to be one of the most talented arbitration lawyers I know. We have grown up - both personally and professionally - in parallel within different fields of the same industry. Beyond a mutual and deep understanding of life and work as a lawyer, we support and motivate each other to do the very best, and additionally learn from one another's experiences.

If you hadn't been a lawyer…
Probably a journalist because, similar to investigations, it involves deep fact-finding exercises, and thorough analysis of documentation, which I have always been a big fan of. Additionally, it involves the need to understand an often-complicated situation and present it in a thorough yet simple, engaging way. Alternatively, I would be an executive in airport infrastructure. I have always had a strong interest in the industry since childhood. I would enjoy the project management and organisational aspect to it.

A pivotal decision
A steak in a Washington, DC, steakhouse – located immediately next to the US Capitol – after a long meeting with the US Department of Justice. This particular restaurant has been featured in many Hollywood films and at the time was full of politicians.

Advice to a young lawyer
Identify a field of specialisation. This increases your value within a firm and the market, which therefore becomes a valuable commodity for existing and potential clients. Constant development of client relationship skills is vital – as we work in an industry where every client's corporate culture is different alongside having to deal with clients in an international and globalised context. Consider contributing value to the firm beyond client work – either in fields like business development, marketing, knowledge management or team building.

What's everyone talking about?
Legal tech. These changes and developments are rapidly growing – significantly disrupting the traditionally conservative legal market. Beyond the application of technology to help firms with document storage, billing, accounting, e-discovery, practice management etc – more and more clients are gaining access to online software and programmes that reduce or eliminate the need to consult a lawyer. There are also new tools that connect clients with lawyers via online marketplaces and lawyer-matching websites. It is important for lawyers to be in the know of the many benefits and risks associated with relevant, new technology, to remain competitive.

What's next in investigations?
There will be an increase in the cross-border nature of investigations alongside enhanced cooperation between foreign regulators. I am noticing more and more foreign regulators and authorities corroborating with each other on investigations matters across different markets.

The most interesting place your job has taken you
This is definitely London - having been based there for approximately two years. It was interesting to experience the quick adaptation in identifying oneself as a Londoner. With its strong international and cosmopolitan culture that is home to some of the strongest firms and the political centre of the UK, it was a constant source of legal inspiration.

Favourite meal
A steak in a Washington, DC, steakhouse – located immediately next to the US Capitol – after a long meeting with the US Department of Justice. This particular restaurant has been featured in many Hollywood films and at the time was full of politicians.