

WFW EXPANDS NEW YORK CORPORATE PRACTICE WITH NEW PARTNER HIRE

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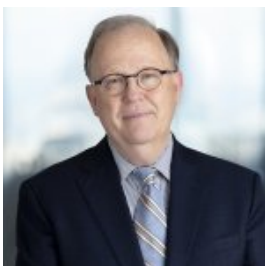
Watson Farley & Williams (“WFW”) is delighted to announce that international corporate lawyer Michael Smith has joined the firm as a Partner in New York. He joins from the New York office of a leading AmLaw 100 firm and has previously worked at Clifford Chance in London and Skadden Arps in Toronto and New York.

One of few lawyers qualified in New York, Canada and England & Wales, Michael has over 25 years’ experience advising on international capital markets, cross-border M&A, exempt fund formation and Islamic finance transactions. His clients include private equity firms, financial institutions, underwriters, natural resource companies and sovereign wealth funds from North America and the MENA region.

WFW Senior Partner and New York Office Head George Paleokrassas commented: “I am delighted to welcome Michael to WFW and his arrival further expands our growing New York corporate and capital markets practice, especially given his experience in the energy and mining sectors.”

Michael added: “I am thrilled to be joining WFW where I believe I can significantly expand my international practice. I look forward to working with the New York team and with colleagues across the firm’s international network.”

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