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EXCLUSIVE: Perkins Coie Hires Seven IP Lawyers from Proskauer

Posted by Rachel Breitman

A year after Heller Ehrman's dissolution, many of its lawyers are still looking for homes, and in some cases, rekindling old friendships. When a seven-lawyer IP team moved from [Proskauer Rose](#) to [Perkins Coie](#) last week, four of those lawyers were reuniting with their former Heller brethren.

The four partners, Colin Sandercock, Paul Booth, John Isacson, and David Laub, started out together at [Foley & Lardner](#)'s Washington, D.C. office, then joined Heller in 2000, and left to come to Proskauer in 2006. They will be joined by three associates and a technical specialist.

By coming to Perkins Coie, they rejoin 13 former Heller lawyers, including the entire Madison, Wisconsin office, which Perkins bought in an [auction-like bid in October](#).

"Many of Perkins's Madison office's litigators had worked with me over the past 11 years," says Sandercock, who will handle patent litigation, licensing and counseling.

Several of the Wisconsin-based partners he'll rejoin, including John Skilton and David Harth, had also started at Foley and moved to Heller with him almost a decade ago. While at Proskauer, Sandercock had continued to work as co-counsel with them on several matters he brought with him from Heller, like a patent infringement case against Abbott Laboratories on a Hepatitis C Virus genotype.

Sandercock had hoped to bring them over to Proskauer after Heller dissolved in September, but said it wasn't the right fit. Instead, after acquiring the Heller team, Perkins Coie reached out to Sandercock in December to invite him to rejoin his friends.

In many ways, the new job puts Sandercock on familiar turf. Even he and John Devaney, the Washington, D.C. managing partner at Perkins, go back many years, having attended Catholic University's law school together.

"We have all sort of reunited at Perkins," Sandercock says.

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