

McKool Smith Adds Veteran Trial Atty In Dallas

By Lynn LaRowe

Law360 (August 27, 2026, 3:18 PM EDT) -- McKool Smith has bulked up its litigation offerings in Dallas with the addition of a seasoned trial attorney from a solo practice who also brings decades of BigLaw experience.

Mary-Olga "Mo" Lovett has joined McKool Smith as a principal, the firm said Wednesday in a statement. Lovett has represented clients on both sides of patent disputes, handled product liability cases, defended oil companies and banks and helped entertainers protect their brands.



Mary Olga Lovett

Lovett said Thursday in an email to Law360 Pulse, "The experience of starting my own firm is something I'm very fortunate to have had, and I was so gratified by its success."

"However, returning to a larger firm will allow me to experience the camaraderie of working with a team again and will give me access to various resources and geographical touchpoints that just aren't possible at a solo firm," Lovett said. "McKool Smith's strong trial reputation across several key areas, both in Texas and nationally, makes it an ideal fit for my practice. Not only will I have the support that I need for my practice and the types of cases that I do, but that support will come from experienced, strategic and battle-tested attorneys at a firm with a premier trial reputation."

Lovett said she has been friends with Dallas-based principal Robert Manley "since the early days of my legal career."

"Robert has always spoken highly of the firm and his time here, so I am looking forward to getting to experience that close-knit culture firsthand, as well as the opportunity to work alongside a dear friend," Lovett said. "But I have also litigated against McKool Smith in the past and seen their skills in the courtroom, so I'm thrilled to get the chance to have them on my side and work alongside such talented attorneys."

Lovett brings over 30 years of trial experience to McKool Smith, the firm said. She has handled more than 50 matters with a combined \$100 billion at stake and has served as lead counsel for plaintiffs and defendants in Eastern District of Texas patent cases.

David Sochia, chairman and managing principal of McKool Smith, said in a statement, "Mo is a trial star and leader with a long record of first-chair wins in the courtroom, including in some of the nation's most significant and sophisticated disputes."

"Her reputation nationally, particularly in Texas, speaks for itself, and we are thrilled to have her at the firm," Sochia said.

Before opening a solo shop early last year, Lovett practiced with King & Spalding LLP for a year and a half, her LinkedIn profile shows. Before King & Spalding, Lovett was a senior vice president at Greenberg Traurig LLP, where she practiced for more than 17 years.

Lovett earned her law degree from the South Texas College of Law and her bachelor's degree from Stephen F. Austin State University.

--Editing by Rich Mills.