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## Federal Prosecutor Daniel Levy Joins McKool Smith

By ASHBY JONES

Daniel W. Levy, a former assistant U.S. attorney in Manhattan, will join McKool Smith next month as a partner in the firm's New York office.

Mr. Levy stepped down from his position as a criminal prosecutor Friday after just over 11 years with the office. During that time, he handled more than a dozen jury trials, and argued more than 15 times before the Second U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

One of his more high-profile wins came earlier this year, when he helped land a guilty plea on behalf of the government against Wegelin & Co., a Swiss bank accused of crimes related to helping wealthy Americans avoid paying U.S. taxes.

Wegelin largely ceased its bank operations after the indictment in 2012. In March, the bank was ordered to pay about \$74 million in fines and forfeitures, the first-ever criminal sentence for a foreign bank accused of violating U.S. tax laws.

While with the government, Mr. Levy worked on a number of other international tax-prosecutions, as well as prosecutions involving money laundering, identity and trade-secret theft, and computer crimes.

Dallas-based McKool is perhaps best known for its expertise and success in patent litigation. But in 2009, the firm launched a white-collar practice, headquartered in New York. Today, the New York office houses about 35 of the firm's 183 lawyers, according to firm chairman Mike McKool.

To Mr. Levy, the office's relatively small size was a selling point. "It's a terrific opportunity to go to a growing office of a law firm that's growing as well," he said. "I'll get help to develop a practice, and learn from real masters," he added referring to two white-collar specialists at the firm, Thomas Engel and Jack Cooney.

Prior to joining the government in 2002, Mr. Levy worked as an associate at Morrison & Foerster LLP, where he specialized in white-collar criminal defense, intellectual property disputes and securities enforcement matters. He graduated from Stanford Law School in 1996.

Mr. McKool said he was "thrilled" with the hire. "Dan is experienced, intellectually strong, and has a lot of contacts," he said. "We're getting someone at the very top of his game."