

# Shook Hardy Launches in New York With 2 Phillips Lytle Litigators

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By Dylan Jackson  
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Fulfilling a longtime goal, Shook, Hardy & Bacon has established a presence in New York City with two products liability partners from Phillips Lytle: Kimberly Penner and Thomas Sheehan.

Penner and Sheehan have long represented pharmaceutical clients and both attorneys also hold advanced science degrees in epidemiology and biochemistry, respectively. They will be part of the firm's product liability litigation practice, which is co-led by Alicia Donahue and Hildy Sastre.

Shook Hardy chair Madeleine McDonough said that Penner and Sheehan's science backgrounds align well with the firm's focus on life sciences, health care and technology.



Shook, Hardy & Bacon in Miami.

Photo: J. Albert Diaz/ALM

"We share significant clients," McDonough said, "and they come from a very deep science background and that's what we really focus on."

McDonough said that Shook Hardy, which was founded in Kansas City, has long been looking to open in New York and had just been waiting on the right people to establish the office. As opposed to many offices in the firm's other jurisdictions, which are centered around a laser-focused purpose, this newest office will grow quickly, McDonough said. Clients are already asking the firm to hire some of their preferred

non-Shook attorneys in the area, and she expects the firm to announce other hires soon.

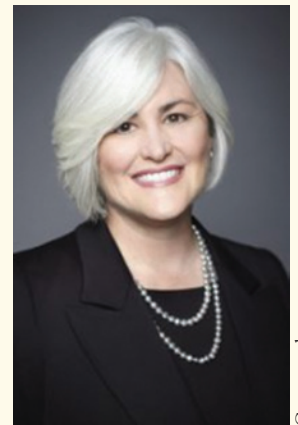
She added that the new location completes the firm's steady expansion into the Northeast United States. The firm opened its Boston office in August 2019 and its Philadelphia office in 2012. The firm has long had a Washington D.C. office, where McDonough spends much of her time. Also in 2019, the firm launched in Los Angeles and Atlanta.

Shook Hardy has not signed a lease yet for a New York office, but has narrowed the search down to several locations in Midtown. McDonough said she's found landlords to be much more flexible in lease length and pricing, adding that prices are much lower than they were even five years ago in part due to the pandemic.

"That was another factor that works to our benefit in opening a New York office at this time," she said.

Phillips Lytle did not immediately return a request for comment on the departures.

*Dylan Jackson writes about the business of law and race. He can be reached at [djackson@alm.com](mailto:djackson@alm.com) or 305-347-6677. On Twitter @DylanBJackson*



Madeleine M. McDonough of Shook, Hardy & Bacon.

Courtesy photo