



Shook Lands Former Fortune 100 Litigation Chief

John Lewis, Jr. brings more than 25 years of litigation experience in private practice and as in-house counsel for The Coca-Cola Company.

HOUSTON (January 28, 2019) Shook, Hardy & Bacon welcomes experienced trial attorney John Lewis, Jr. as partner to serve industry-leading companies with business litigation matters. Lewis brings a highly sought-after skill-set: experience advocating in-house at a Fortune 100 company and in private practice.

Lewis served as Chief Litigation Counsel for The Coca-Cola Company, advising C-suite and board members on matters including government investigations, corporate compliance and class action litigation. He also acted as the company's Global Chief Diversity officer as well as a trusted advisor on non-legal matters including brand reputation and stakeholder issues.

"Shook prides itself on the long-term relationships we build with our clients," stated Shook Chair Madeleine McDonough. "John understands the importance of the partnership necessary between in-house and outside counsel to achieve the best possible outcome. His impeccable trial credentials will bring additional depth to Shook's national roster of commercial litigators."

Shook Partners Mike Cargnel and Gary Miller co-chair the firm's Business Litigation Practice. The Shook team counsels health, science, technology, manufacturing, financial services and industrial clients through trial and appeal, and they provide comprehensive experience in complex, multijurisdictional matters.

"John's background complements our team of commercial litigators who are willing to try the most contentious cases," said Cargnel. "He also has some familiarity with the firm and our attorneys, having gained his trial experience as a younger lawyer in Kansas City."

"I think my differentiator is my depth of experience in the C-suite, where I have advised business leaders, as well as my time in the courtroom overseeing high-stakes litigation," stated Lewis. "It is rewarding to come full circle to a premiere trial firm like Shook with its high caliber of clients. I look forward to serving companies across the country from my hometown, Houston."

Lewis will join Shook's Houston office but remain active in the Atlanta community, where he currently serves as an Advisory Board member of the National Commerce Corporation (NASDAQ; NCOM) and the Anti-Defamation League (Southeast Region) and he is a Trustee for the Atlanta Botanical Garden.

“We’re excited to welcome John to our firm and our office, where he will work alongside trial attorneys with a diverse practice encompassing product liability, patent and intellectual property, and pharmaceutical and medical device matters,” said Shook Houston Office Managing Partner Jennise Stubbs.

Early in his career, Lewis gained courtroom prowess focusing on bankruptcy/creditors’ rights disputes. His next move was litigation counsel at The Coca-Cola Company for eight years, five of them as head of litigation. In addition, Lewis served as the Global Chief Diversity officer championing workplace fairness. Before joining Shook, he was a partner with Lawrence & Bundy LLC in Atlanta.

Lewis will join a number of Shook attorneys at the National Bar Association-Commercial Law Section Corporate Counsel Conference in Orlando, Florida, January 31-February 2, 2019. In 2012, NBA renamed its Corporate Diversity Award “John Lewis, Jr. Corporate Award” in honor of his contributions to the organization and the professional development of junior attorneys.

Lewis earned his law degree from The George Washington Law School and his bachelor of arts, *with honors*, from Morehouse College.

To speak to Lewis, contact Shook Media Relations Manager Heather McMichael, 816.389.0419, hcmichael@shb.com

About Shook, Hardy & Bacon

Founded in 1889, Shook, Hardy & Bacon L.L.P. has 12 offices in the United States and London, with attorneys and professional staff serving clients in the health, science and technology sectors in areas ranging from product liability defense and commercial litigation to intellectual property prosecution and litigation, environmental and toxic tort, privacy and data security and regulatory counseling.