

VLP Law Adds Morrison Cohen Corporate Partner In NY

By Jake Simpson

Law360, New York (May 04, 2012, 5:10 PM ET) -- A veteran corporate partner formerly with Morrison Cohen LLP who specializes in venture capital and mergers and acquisitions has joined VLP Law Group LLP as a partner in its New York office, VLP Law said Thursday.

Martin H. Levenglick, who has operated a corporate transactional and M&A practice for more than 30 years, will work in VLP Law's corporate practice in California. He previously was a corporate partner in New York with Morrison Cohen.

Levenglick's last day at Morrison Cohen was Monday. He started at VLP Law the following day.

The veteran partner generally acts as outside general counsel and adviser to venture-backed startups and other early-stage growth companies. Levenglick's clients include emerging growth and high-growth companies, and he also is transactional counsel to fund, corporate and high-net-worth investors in growth companies, VLP Law said.

Unlike other law firms, VLP Law is a geographically diverse firm with fewer attorneys who collaborate across practice areas. The firm has no central office, and its advance technology platform allows partners from different offices to easily work together.

Levenglick said VLP Law's attorneys and business model drew him to join the firm and added he was looking forward to collaborating with other VLP Law partners.

"I was thinking about: 'What would be an out-of-the-box look at practicing law?'" he said. "I've been doing it conventionally for all these years for all these folks who use technology and really leveraging it, and I thought: 'Why should I be limited by my keyboard and my chair?'"

VLP Law Partner Geoff Willard, co-chair of the firm's corporate group, said in a statement that he was excited to add Levenglick's knowledge and expertise to its practice group.

"In addition, I am excited to see our East Coast presence, and in particular our New York presence, further enhanced with the addition of a truly top-notch attorney," Willard said.

As part of his wide-ranging practice, Levenglick acts as transactional counsel to fund, corporate and high-net-worth investors in a variety of sectors. He said his primary client base is "early stage and venture capital-type companies".

He advises clients primarily in the Internet, software, media, technology and biopharmaceutical industries, VLP Law said.

Additionally, Levenglick advises private funds and corporate investment clients on corporate finance, corporate governance, and general corporate counseling.

Levenglick's private fund clients comprise venture capital funds, corporate venture capital groups and other long-term strategic investors, include fund of funds companies, the firm said.

Before joining Morrison Cohen, Levenglick was a corporate partner in the New York office of Heller Ehrman LLP. He began his began his career at O'Sullivan Graev & Karabell LLP, where he made partner and spent 18 years in the corporate department.

He also worked in the New York office of Orrick Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP for eight years.

"An RIP in my tombstone might be: '[I was] a Silicon Valley lawyer in New York,'" he joked.

Levenglick received his law degree from New York University School of Law and his bachelor's degree from McGill University.

-- Editing by Richard McVay.