

Weber Gallagher Adds 6 From Vaughan Baio In NY, Philly

By **James Boyle**

Law360 (February 20, 2024, 4:27 PM EST) -- A six-attorney team led by one of Vaughan Baio's co-founders and name partners has left the firm to join Weber Gallagher Simpson Stapleton Fires & Newby LLP in Philadelphia and New York.

Madeline S. Baio, fellow partner Ryan A. McKeon and four other attorneys are joining Weber Gallagher's Philadelphia and New York offices in the move, the firm announced Monday. Baio will serve as a partner in Philadelphia with associate Marissa Hill. With the move, Baio also added former Marshall Dennehey attorney Joanna Buchanico to her team as a partner in Philadelphia.

McKeon will work as a partner in New York with an additional former Vaughan Baio & Partners attorney who is moving to Weber Gallagher but has not been named yet. Associates Rachael Reeves and Jack Imbornoni are also joining the New York office from Vaughan Baio.

Baio told Law360 Pulse on Tuesday that her team's move was a group decision prompted by the need to expand their platform to better serve clients.

"We considered other firms, then met with people at Weber Gallagher," Baio said. "They had the right cross-marketing opportunities and the geographical footprints we were looking for. There's also a great support staff, which has been helpful and supportive throughout our transition process."

Baio also credited Weber Gallagher's reputation for attracting top legal talent as she and McKeon look to continue building their team through lateral hires. Baio's former partner, Joseph Vaughan, told Law360 Pulse in a statement that his firm will eventually change its name to reflect her departure.

"Madeline is a skilled attorney, and we wish her and her team success at their new firm," Vaughan said.

Baio's practice uses her more than 40 years of experience to represent clients in cases involving product liability, premises liability, motor vehicle and employment-related matters. Much of her most recent work has been advising clients in the gig economy, including transportation and delivery companies.

"This is an important and growing area of the law," Baio said. "What's interesting is a lot of those kinds of cases are making the law. They also bring in a lot of different practices, and we now have more resources for our client base."

Baio co-founded Philadelphia-based Vaughan Baio in June 2020 with Vaughan. Two years later, Baio needed a New York partner to help serve a gig economy client and brought in McKeon from Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP.

"He was already doing work for the client in New York," Baio said. "It turned out to be an excellent fit."

Baio earned her law degree from Suffolk University Law School in 1984 and has previously practiced at Marshall Dennehey, Rawle & Henderson LLP and Goldberg Segalla LLP.



Madeline S. Baio



Ryan A. McKeon

McKeon's practice defends clients in litigation including complex tort matters involving catastrophic injury and death claims, premises liability, labor law, product liability, transportation and negligent security matters. He earned his law degree from Touro College's Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center.

"Madeline and Ryan's combined wealth of experience and knowledge will undoubtedly enrich our firm, benefit our clients, and fuel our continued growth," Weber Gallagher Chair Andrew Indeck said in a statement. "This addition bolsters our bench in New York and Philadelphia and provides us with an opportunity to expand our reach to clients in diverse industries."