

Bracewell Adds Ex-Andrews Kurth White Collar Atty In Dallas

By **Todd Hutchinson**

Law360 (March 18, 2019, 9:42 PM EDT) -- Bracewell LLP has added a former Andrews Kurth Kenyon LLP white collar regulatory and enforcement practice chair with more than 17 years of experience handling white collar litigation as a partner in its Dallas office, the firm said on Monday.

Matthew Nielsen has been a partner at boutique Stanton LLP for almost two years. Before that, he spent just over a decade with Andrews Kurth Kenyon, now known as Hunton Andrews Kurth LLP, where he started as a senior associate before working his way up to partner and chair of its white collar regulatory and enforcement practice. Nielsen also spent six years as an associate with Hughes & Luce LLP.



Matthew Nielsen

"This was an excellent opportunity [for me] to grow a national practice," Nielsen told Law360.

Nielsen becomes one of 10 attorneys nationwide who form Bracewell's white collar defense group. The group's chair, Stephen Braga, who joined the firm's Washington, D.C., office in January, said Nielsen is highly regarded.

"Matthew's arrival adds to the firm's strong bench and especially deepens our ability to handle civil and criminal securities-related matters, both nationally and in Dallas-Fort Worth," Braga said in a press release.

While Nielsen, a graduate of Baylor Law School, has spent his career in Dallas, he said his practice has evolved over his almost 18 years in the field, and now it is "fairly common" for him to have clients from all over the U.S., as well as in several foreign countries.

Nielsen has represented clients in investigations and enforcement matters before the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, U.S. Department of Justice, the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority and other agencies, according to a press release.

He was part of a team that overturned the lifetime ban of a 30-year securities professional by successfully challenging the constitutionality of the SEC administrative proceedings. He also led a team overseeing the court-appointed monitoring of an international company found guilty of violating U.S. export control laws and helped conduct an internal investigation into potential insider trading claims for one of the largest independent liquid terminal and pipeline operators in the United States.

“Matthew is an excellent trial lawyer, whose experience handling complex white collar investigations and litigation will strengthen our growing white collar team,” said Bracewell managing partner Gregory M. Bopp.

--Editing by Alanna Weissman.