

Young Conaway Has New Corporate Litigation Section Chairs

By **Rose Krebs**

Law360 (February 24, 2021, 3:44 PM EST) -- Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor LLP has new leaders in place to helm the Delaware-based firm's corporate litigation and counseling section and steer its work on high-stakes corporate cases.

Tammy L. Mercer was appointed as chair and James M. Yoch Jr. as vice-chair of Young Conaway's corporate litigation and counseling section, the firm announced on Tuesday.

"We are excited and honored to lead the talented and energetic group of lawyers in Young Conaway's corporate litigation and counseling section," Mercer and Yoch told Law360 Pulse in a joint statement on Wednesday. "Our section is dedicated to the success of each other and our clients. In the coming years, we look forward to expanding our section and continuing its history of providing exceptional service and results for our clients."

The firm's corporate litigation and counseling section focuses on "internal governance issues and the lawsuits that so often accompany them," according to Young Conaway's website. It currently has 31 attorneys, the firm said.

"Especially in the context of corporate transactions, these issues demand deep knowledge of Delaware law and its exacting standards," the website said. "We counsel directors, officers, and other fiduciaries on their responsibilities, and we defend them, when necessary, in litigation."

Mercer has litigated a variety of corporate disputes in Delaware's esteemed Chancery Court, including disputes involving entities such as limited partnerships and limited liability companies, litigation over corporate mergers, acquisitions and other transactions, proxy disputes, valuation and appraisal issues, and trade secret misappropriation cases, according to the firm.

"She has been on the forefront of the development of alternative entity law, litigating some of the leading cases in the area and speaking frequently on relevant topics," the firm said.

She joined Young Conaway's corporate litigation and counseling section after graduating from Villanova University's Charles Widger School of Law.

Yoch focuses on "representing companies and their directors in lawsuits brought by Delaware stockholders, master limited partnership unitholders, and deal partners, as well as valuation disputes in various courts," the firm said.

A graduate of the University of Pittsburgh School of Law, Yoch clerked for Delaware's former Vice Chancellor Donald F. Parsons Jr., according to the firm. He also serves as vice chair of Young Conaway's hiring committee, the firm said.



Tammy Mercer



James M. Yoch Jr.

The appointment of Mercer and Yoch to lead the firm's corporate litigation and counseling section is the latest of recent firm staffing moves.

Earlier this month, Young Conaway announced that William E. Gamgort was appointed as chair of the firm's complex and specialty litigation section, which represents local, national and international clients such as Fortune 500 companies, small businesses, insurance companies, and government entities in various legal proceedings, according to a firm news release.

The firm also announced earlier this month that Vincent C. Thomas was appointed to serve as co-chair of the business planning and tax section to serve alongside current chair Craig D. Gear. The section represents businesses on matters such as sophisticated transactions and complex tax issues, the firm said.

On Feb. 1, the **firm announced** it had created a new position in charge of diversity, equity and inclusion and hired Deborah R. Edwards, an attorney who previously served as an assistant dean at Seton Hall Law School in New Jersey, for the post.

Edwards will work as a director to boost the firm's diversity initiatives and continue to expand on efforts by an existing Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee that has striven to assist the firm's bid to recruit, retain and promote attorneys and staff with a broad range of backgrounds and experiences, according to the firm.

Young Conaway has approximately 116 attorneys working out of offices in Wilmington, Delaware, and New York City, according to the firm's website.

--Additional reporting by Kevin Penton. Editing by Nicole Bleier.

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