

BOUTIQUE LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR

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GQ EMPLOYMENT LAW PAUL QUAIN

A BOUTIQUE SPECIALIST ESTABLISHED ON A GLOBAL STAGE

2016/17 was a stellar year for employment specialist GQ Employment Law. In its seventh year of operation, the firm's revenues have grown by 59% to £2.8m. and it has become the sole UK member of Littler, the world's largest network of specialist employment and labour law firms.

Since its foundation in 2010, GQ has grown from a complete start-up to a team of 18 fee-earners, including six partners. The founding partners, Jon Gilligan and Paul Quain, set out to create a law firm that combines magic circle expertise with an in-house, riskbased approach to advice. Standout work in the last year includes defending a party in the multi-million pound Marathon Asset Management unlawful conspiracy litigation, which continues to have a widespread influence on the development of the law on licence fee damages, as well as advising a major US technology company on establishing a European Works Council covering ten separate jurisdictions. Clients include both US and UK Global 100 law firms.

HIGHLY COMMENDED ARC PENSIONS CHRIS MULLEN

ARC Pensions Law is the first new specialist pensions law firm to be set up for 30 years, and the first national specialist pensions law firm. Founded in June 2015, ARC has grown to eight partners and six associates across two offices and will turn over £4m this year. It has over 180 clients in total, including several £1bn+ pension funds, and many leading UK and US law firms now outsource their pensions law requirements to ARC. In May 2017, ARC opened an office in Leeds, hiring DLA Piper's local pensions team, led by two experienced partners.

COMMENDED EDMONDS MARSHALL MCMAHON KATE MCMAHON

Claiming to be the only specialist private prosecution firm in the UK, Edmonds Marshall McMahon prosecutes a wide range of offences, and advises companies with fraud and criminal issues, supervising investigations, assisting law enforcement and acting for witnesses. The firm also has leading civil fraud and trust practitioners who are widely recognised internationally.

EUCLID LAW OLIVER BRETZ

This competition specialist was established by former Clifford Chance global head of antitrust Oliver Bretz in 2015 and has quickly fashioned a leading reputation. The firm was further boosted by the additions of Marie Leppard from Clifford Chance and senior consultant Gavin Robert from Linklaters.

PCB LITIGATION STEVEN PHILIPPSOHN

Founded in 1979, PCB Litigation has established itself as one of London's strongest white-collar crime and disputes boutiques. It is known for handling asset tracing matters on behalf of banks, large corporations and high-net-worth individuals, and has a strong track record in all types of property fraud and employee fraud, bribery, manipulation and conspiracy to injure.

PETERS & PETERS MICHAEL O'KANE

Celebrating its 80th year and one of the oldest white-collar crime practices in London, Peters & Peters has been handling high-level criminal and civil cases in this field long before the City's leading commercial firms came to the party. Its outstanding reputation and highly-experienced team has paid off with revenues up 8% to £12m in 2016/17.

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