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Mintz Levin Adds Ex-SDNY Prosecutor To White Collar Team

By John Petrick

Law360 (September 24, 2018, 4:40 PM EDT) -- Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky and Popeo PC has hired a former federal prosecutor for the Southern District of New York in expanding its corporate investigations, enforcement and white collar practices in New York, the firm has announced.

Jason P.W. Halperin, who joined the firm as member on Sept. 17, comes from Gibson Dunn & Crutcher LLP, where he spent three years fresh from his tenure as an assistant U.S. attorney from 2004 to 2015. During his career as a federal prosecutor in New York, Halperin represented the government in 13 jury trials and won each of them. Those cases included the trials of four men on charges of conspiring to blow up synagogues in the Bronx, a public corruption case involving a Yonkers city councilwoman and her political patron, and the trials of three New York State senators for corruption and tax fraud.



Jason P.W. Halperin

"I love being in the courtroom. I had a great run at the U.S. Attorney's Office and loved every minute of it," Halperin told Law360. "There's nothing like the intensity of preparing for a complicated white collar trial. There's nothing like the rush of giving the jury address."

But what drew him to the white collar field to begin with, he says, were the cases themselves.

"I think so many of the cases involve really interesting, compelling stories. Every case has its story. And there are two sides to every story," Halperin said. "The question is figuring out how best to present your client's story, whether it's in court, whether it's to a government agency. To me, it's really the age-old tale of telling a story. Communication. All of those things are what make the trial work in the white collar space so interesting."

Halperin also prosecuted international and domestic terrorism cases, as well as national security cases that involved illegal exports, international money laundering and sanctions and the transmission of money overseas.

A graduate of Yale University and New York University School of Law, Halperin won the 2013 Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Counterintelligence Award for Excellence, the ODNI's highest national award, for an international counterproliferation investigation.

"Jason is a highly accomplished and talented attorney, and we are extremely fortunate to have him join our litigation team," said Bob Bodian, managing member of Mintz Levin. "Jason has been successful as a prosecutor in the U.S. Attorney's Office and in private practice, where he represented an impressive array of clients in high-stakes government and internal investigations, and he further strengthens our ability to serve our clients."

What drew him to Mintz Levin, Halperin said, was its roster of fellow white collar lawyers and its financial success.

"What I saw with Mintz was a growing and dynamic white collar practice, especially in New York," he said. "Building a white collar practice at Mintz was appealing and intriguing. ... And the firm is doing terrifically, financially. It's had three years in a row of record financial results."

--Editing by Alanna Weissman.

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