

Mintz Picks Up Partner From Boies Schiller

By Rachel O'Brien

Law360 (August 21, 2020, 8:58 PM EDT) -- Experienced litigator Jeremy Vest joined Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky and Popeo PC's New York-based litigation practice after more than a decade at Boies Schiller Flexner LLP, the firm announced Friday.

Vest, 42, has spent the last 13 years working on litigation in cases covering insurance, product liability, contracts and more at Boies Schiller — where he was a partner — getting what he said was valuable experience as a trial lawyer.

"One of the things I always enjoyed at Boies Schiller was the varied nature of its practice," Vest told Law360 on Friday, his second day of work at Mintz.

He has defended pharmaceutical and medical device manufactures in class actions, and is currently representing homebuyers and sellers in a putative class action against a New York residential real estate brokerage firm.

Vest joined Mintz in part because "it's a firm that's strategically growing, it seems committed to continuing to elevate its litigation practice," he said.

The firm said Vest is the ninth attorney to join this summer.

Vest has the added bonus of joining leading litigator and former Boies Schiller colleague Courtney Rockett, who left at the end of June for Mintz.

Seeing Rockett move to Mintz "opened my eyes to the opportunity," he said.

They had worked together on a years-long case in Delaware Court of Chancery to settle a dispute between the two founders of private equity firm Fox Paine & Co. LLC.

While attending Northwestern University School of Law, Vest was part of a trial team led by two assistant U.S. attorneys in the Northern District of Illinois.

"They were tremendous influences on me" and part of why he went into trial law, Vest said.



Jeremy Vest

He began his law career at Minneapolis-based Oppenheimer Wolff & Donnelly LLP, which later merged with Fox Rothschild LLP. He then clerked with U.S. District Court Judge Joan H. Lefkow in the Northern District of Illinois.

Vest started working for Boies Schiller in 2007, which he said helped him get the experience that propelled him to Mintz.

"I'm very proud to have been at the firm for more than a decade, and I consider it to be the ideal training ground," he said.

One notable case for Vest was working on a trial concerning Arizona Beverage Co., the maker of the eponymous iced tea, and its co-founders John Ferolito and Domenick Vultaggio.

Vest said he worked on the case for years as a member of the trial team, cross-examining fact and expert witnesses to determine the value of the company so Ferolito could sell his interest in it.

The legal battle culminated in the company being valued at \$2 billion, with Vultaggio buying out Ferolito's approximate \$1 billion share.

"It's really a remarkable story in that Mr. Ferolito and Mr. Vultaggio were distributing other beverage products and spotted an opportunity at that time for a canned iced tea," Vest said. The case "was a very formative experience."

"Jeremy is a great addition to our firm," Mintz Managing Partner Bob Bodian said in a statement. "He is a highly respected, first-chair litigator, who adds further breadth and depth to our litigation practice. Jeremy's arrival, together with the recent addition of Courtney Rockett, puts more distinguished resources in the hands of our clients; and, together with our already deep bench of litigators, reinforces Mintz's reputation as a go-to firm for complex litigation."

--Editing by Adam LoBelia.