

## Latham Lands Ex-Crowe Counsel In Chicago

By Yvonne Juris

*Law360 (April 1, 2020, 2:59 PM EDT)* -- Latham & Watkins LLP has bolstered its Chicago office by adding an attorney who served as assistant general counsel for accounting firm Crowe LLP, the firm has announced.

John J. Barber has joined the firm as counsel in its litigation and trial department and as a member of its securities litigation and professional liability practice, according to the firm's March 17 announcement. Barber, who is also a certified public accountant, has expertise in managing litigation, white-collar defense and investigations, government regulatory matters, transactional and employment-related diligence matters and conducting internal investigations, the firm said.



John J. Barber

Barber, who has broad experience representing clients before the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, told Law360 he was attracted to what he characterized as Latham's collaborative culture and dedication to top-notch client service.

"As a part of Latham's market-leading securities litigation and professional liability team, I'm particularly looking forward to helping professional services providers and corporate clients address challenges they're facing," Barber said.

Barber said he thought Latham was well suited to represent clients who are trying to navigate a volatile economy as clients adjust to financial risks brought on by the devastating novel coronavirus pandemic.

"Latham's diverse talent pool, collaborative culture and commitment to client services allows clients access to global resources to address the uncertain economy we've just entered," Barber said. "Latham is well positioned to advise clients regarding the emerging risks and challenges that arise daily as the world reacts to changing circumstances."

Barber added that the pandemic would have "pervasive effects on the economy and global businesses." Clients, he said, could benefit from "proactively identifying and managing risks rather than waiting."

“When they see things on the horizon, they should proactively engage,” Barber said.

In a statement, Cathy Birkeland, office managing partner for Latham’s Chicago office, touted Barber’s nearly two decades of experience advising professional services and clients.

“He is an excellent addition to our team whose background and firsthand experience will be valuable to our clients here in Chicago and around the globe,” Birkeland said.

Barber received his law degree from University of Notre Dame, the Law School, and his bachelor of business administration from University of Notre Dame.

--Editing by John Oudens.