

Gibson Dunn's Matthew Biben Exits for King & Spalding

Biben said that he anticipates "a bunch" of his clients will be joining him at King & Spalding, noting he expects to still work on some matters together with Gibson Dunn and "others will come with me."

BY JACOB POLACHEK

What You Need to Know

- Matthew Biben joined King & Spalding on Monday, focusing on banking, regulatory and financial enforcement issues.
- Biben's move is one of a number of exits from Gibson Dunn this year amid partner compensation changes at the firm.
- Biben said some business matters will move with him to King & Spalding.

Matthew Biben, who was co-chair of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher's financial institutions practice, has moved to King & Spalding as a partner in New York, the Atlanta-based firm said Tuesday.

The move is one of the most prominent hires for King & Spalding this year, as it looks to continue to expand outside its Southeast base into high-rate markets, including New York. Meanwhile, the exit continues a stream of high-profile lawyer exits out of Gibson Dunn this year amid a change in its [partner compensation system](#), even as the firm has brought on a series of new hires.

Biben, who will focus on banking, regulatory and financial enforcement at King & Spalding, represents individuals, financial institutions and fintech companies in civil disputes, securities and bankruptcy litigation and complex matters involving regulators, the firm said.

Biben, who joined the firm on Monday, declined to comment



Matthew Biben of King & Spalding

on the size of his practice in an interview. But he said that he anticipates "a bunch" of his clients will be joining him at King & Spalding.

"They are great lawyers at Gibson Dunn and I have some friends that are still there," he said. "I expect for some matters we'll work on them together and

others will come with me.”

Biben said he does not expect his practice to change in his move, but said that in the months following the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, he is seeing an increase in the number of civil litigation cases that are no longer on hold. On the government and enforcement side, Biben said the state and federal governments are becoming much more active on consumer finance issues.

“On the crypto space, we’re seeing a real rush of potential regulation and some activity by multiple regulators trying to drive change in the crypto asset and crypto platform,” he said.

Biben said he was drawn to King & Spalding through his previous work with the firm’s current attorneys, which include

Bill Johnson, Andy Bayman and Damien Marshall, among others.

“I knew the firm and when they reached out and we began to talk, it just made sense,” Biben said. “There’s a great culture here. It’s a great partnership. They care about the practice of law. They don’t just treat it as a business. They treat it as a profession. They value the pro bono work that I’ve done. They value the client work, but it just felt like a great fit.”

Bayman, the head of King & Spalding’s trial and disputes practice group, noted in a statement that Biben “has built a stellar career,” with experience in the government, banks and private practice. He added that his “diverse litigation practice, in-depth understanding of the banking and regulatory environment, commer-

cial acumen and legal prowess offer clients outstanding counsel and successful resolutions to their most critical issues.”

Prior to his time at Gibson Dunn, Biben served as a partner and co-lead of the banking industry group at Debevoise & Plimpton. He also previously served as general counsel for JPMorgan Chase Consumer & Community Banking and deputy general counsel and global head of litigation at The Bank of New York Mellon.

Previously, he was a prosecutor, including with the U.S. Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of New York in the criminal division and with the Manhattan District Attorney’s Office.

A Gibson Dunn representative did not immediately return a message seeking comment on Biben’s departure.