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SheppardMullin

SUMMER 2021

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THE END OF AN ERA: GUY HALGREN TO STEP DOWN AS FIRM CHAIR

Sheppard Mullin recently announced that Washington, D.C. corporate partner **Lucantonio (Luca) Salvi** was elected by the partnership as the firm's new Chair, effective October 2021. Luca will succeed Guy Halgren, who has been Chair since 2001. As Chair-Elect, Luca will work alongside Guy until October 12, 2021, when he will officially assume the role.

"Luca will be an exceptional leader for our firm," said Guy. "He is tremendously well-respected, not only as a lawyer but also as a human being." Luca joined the firm as a partner in 2006, served as the Co-Managing Partner of the Washington, D.C. office from 2012-2017, and was previously the Leader of the firm's Aerospace and Defense and Private Equity Teams.

During Guy Halgren's 20-year tenure as Chair, the firm achieved many milestones, some of which include:

- Grew from 292 attorneys in 2001 to 993 attorneys today.
- Opened 11 offices around the globe: Century City (2001), Del Mar (2001), Washington, D.C. (2003), New York (2004), Shanghai (2007), Silicon Valley (2008), Brussels (2009), London (2011), Chicago (2012), Seoul (2012), and Dallas (2018).
- Experienced 20 consecutive years of revenue growth, increasing firm revenue from \$149 million in 2001 to \$867 million in 2020.
- Recognized nationally for diversity and inclusion and pro bono by the Minority Corporate Counsel Association (Thomas L. Sager Award); Public Counsel; the American Civil Liberties Union; Thomson Reuters Foundation; and the American Bar Association (Pro Bono Publico Award).

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"It has been a tremendous honor to serve my firm for the last 20 years," said Guy. "When I was elected in 2001, I thought it would be a three-year stint. Now here I am 20 years later and turning 65. It has been a remarkable and rewarding journey through our nation's and our profession's economic and social challenges, bookended by 9/11 and the pandemic. I cannot fully express how proud I am of Sheppard Mullin and all we have accomplished together, not just with our growth and financial success but also in making Sheppard Mullin a terrific place to work, embracing and celebrating diversity and inclusion, and giving back to our communities."

We at Sheppard Mullin can't thank Guy enough for all he has done for the firm, and we look forward to a similarly bright future with Luca.



Guy Halgren

Chair

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Luca Salvi

Chair-Elect

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

INTERVIEW: JOHNETH PARK



Johneth Park

*Senior Vice President and General Counsel
Doosan Corporation
Seoul, South Korea*

*Formerly Corporate Group, 2015-2020
Seoul Office*

We are delighted to profile former Sheppard Mullin partner Johneth Park, now Senior Vice President and General Counsel at Doosan Corporation in Seoul, South Korea.

Career Path

Johneth was born in Seoul, South Korea and grew up there until middle school, when his family immigrated to Boston.

He obtained his B.A. in Government from Harvard University, his M.A. in International Relations from Columbia University, and his law degree from Georgetown University Law Center.

Johneth started his legal career at Goodwin Procter in Boston in 2000, where he was a corporate associate, and spent a year as a foreign legal consultant at Lee & Ko, a Korean law firm.

He then worked as Counsel in Simpson Thatcher & Bartlett's Capital Markets Group in Hong Kong and Seoul from 2004 to 2015. He moved to Sheppard Mullin's Seoul office in 2015, working as a corporate partner and becoming co-office managing partner.

Johneth joined Doosan Corporation as Senior Vice President and General Counsel in September 2020.

Current Role and Responsibilities

Founded in 1896, Doosan Group is a South Korean multinational conglomerate and the parent company of Bobcat Company, a worldwide leader in the manufacturing and distribution of compact equipment. Doosan's Infrastructure Support Businesses are made up of five subsidiaries: Doosan Corporation, Doosan Heavy Industries & Construction, Doosan Engineering & Construction and Doosan Engine.

Johneth supervises all legal affairs (both domestic and international) involving Doosan Corporation's business units as well as some of the significant international legal work affecting the Doosan group as a whole. These business units include corporate development, electronics, robotics, mobility, logistics and industrial vehicles. He has also been involved in reinforcing cybersecurity compliance programs at Doosan.

Importance of Outside Counsel

Johneth noted that outside counsel have made his job easier by "handling sophisticated deal structuring and contract drafting that cannot be efficiently done with in-house capabilities."

He also appreciates receiving updates on the latest legal news and trends and, in general, talking to someone intelligently about the finer points of law.

Pandemic Effect

"Our company likes to conduct business (including contract negotiation) over face-to-face meetings," Johneth stated. "So it was frustrating that the pandemic (and the associated two-week quarantines) prevented our corporate development team from traveling overseas to move the deals quickly."

Johneth predicts this will probably quickly change once the pandemic is over.

Career Advice for Young Lawyers

Johneth's advice for newer associates is to "always listen to the client! Especially what they are NOT saying. Body language speaks volumes."

He also advocates that we "send clients a hello once in a while even if you have nothing useful to say. Out of sight, out of mind, especially with so many outside law firms knocking on their door."

Preparing for His Role at Doosan

While at Sheppard Mullin, Doosan was a client of Johneth's. He stated, "I had the incredible luck of working with a general counsel who shared similar backgrounds, hobbies and appreciation for fun, and most importantly, a talent to tell the good lawyer from the bad."

Sheppard Mullin Memories

Johneth joked, "Believe it or not, I miss staying late at night in the office trying to complete a complex contract or draft a sensitive strategy memo. Here, they expect me to leave the office and go home for dinner so that my team members can, too!"

But seriously, he "certainly misses basking in the California sun and chatting with colleagues during the firm retreats."

Life Outside Work

Johneth enjoys hanging out with his family and friends.

When he's not working, he is "trying to spend time with my kids before they embark on the diaspora of college and life beyond."

He also likes to check out new restaurants in the neighborhood, golfing with old pals, and taking early morning strolls/hikes in mountains nearby.

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We thank Johneth for taking the time to share his insights with us about his post-Sheppard Mullin career and wish him continued success.

ALUMNI MOVES AND NOTABLE NEWS

Below are a few recent in-house alumni moves and other notable achievements. Let us know if you've changed jobs so we can feature your move in a future edition.



Jacqueline ("Jaxy") Luther is now Assistant General Counsel at ABM Facilities in Huntington Beach, CA. She was a finance and bankruptcy partner in our Orange County office from 2011 to 2021.



Nadezhda ("Nady") Nikonova is now Senior Antitrust Counsel at Oracle in Redwood Shores, CA. She was an antitrust associate in our San Francisco office from 2013 to 2021.



Scott Oross is now General Counsel at Pipeline Therapeutics in San Diego, CA. He was a corporate partner in our San Diego (Del Mar) office from 2019 to 2020.



Victoria Tallman is now Employment Counsel at Autodesk in San Rafael, CA. She was an employment associate in our San Francisco office from 2019 to 2021.



Dylan Turner is now a patent attorney with Ionis Pharmaceuticals in San Diego, CA. He was an IP associate in our Del Mar office from 2018 to 2021.

Congrats to all our alumni! We also regularly post in-house job opportunities from clients and friends of the firm on the Sheppard Mullin alumni site under "Career Opportunities." We welcome in-house job postings from you; please send to alumni@sheppardmullin.com.

ACTIVE BYSTANDERSHIP FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PROJECT HITS ONE YEAR MILESTONE

In June 2020, through the hard work of Washington DC partner **Jonathan Aronie** and others, Sheppard Mullin joined the Georgetown University Law Center to launch the national Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) Project. The program, which teaches the tactics and skills of intervention to police officers and helps create a culture where interventions are accepted and expected, has been embraced by community groups, civil rights organizations, and police officers.

In just 12 months, ABLE has become a national "best practice" and has racked up some impressive stats:

- **140 law enforcement agencies** have committed to the ABLE Standards and have been accepted into the ABLE program
- **650+ ABLE instructors** have been trained and certified
- **32 states** now have ABLE-trained agencies
- **150,000+ officers** will be trained by ABLE-certified instructors
- **50+ million community members** will be served by ABLE-trained agencies



ABLE

Active Bystandership
for Law Enforcement

And more agencies sign up every day, meaning that more communities will receive better, safer, and fairer policing every day. Current ABLE cities include: New York, Boston, Orlando, Portland, Seattle, Cleveland, Denver, Washington DC, Dallas, and many more. Agencies include local police departments, sheriff's offices, campus police, transit police, state police, and three Canadian police services. Additionally, per order of the New Jersey Attorney General, all 33,000 law enforcement officers in the state will receive ABLE training. (Check out this [WSJ story](#) about ABLE's New Jersey experience!) Thanks to Sheppard Mullin's tireless support of this transformational program, similar state and regional efforts are in the works in New York, Colorado, Texas, Massachusetts, Utah, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, and Washington State.

In addition to the firm's generous grant to the ABLE Project and the dozens of Sheppard Mullin attorneys and staff who have dedicated countless hours to the program, several major corporations and organizations around the country have provided financial and in-kind support as well, including Mastercard, Verizon, PepsiCo, The American Arbitration Association, HNI, JPMorganChase, Microsoft, Facebook, Toyota, Dentsu, W.W. Grainger, Salesforce, and Tableau.

Want to Help the ABLE Project?



INTRODUCE ABLE to your organizations or potential endorsers. The clients above have had extremely positive experiences partnering with Sheppard Mullin on the ABLE Project. Remember, ABLE training is free to most agencies accepted into the program. If you know of organizations looking to put their names behind something culturally transformative, encourage them to endorse ABLE. You can see our current supporters [here](#). We can also provide additional information on ABLE partnerships.



ENCOURAGE your local law enforcement agencies to join ABLE. A simple note with a link to www.law.Georgetown.edu/ABLE may be all it takes. We can also provide you with a longer email with more context that you can send.



FOLLOW ABLE's progress on LinkedIn at [@ABLE Project at Georgetown Law IPP](#) and on Twitter at [@GeorgetownABLE](#)

We thank our alumni for supporting this program.

SHEPPARD MULLIN RECEIVES TWO PRESTIGIOUS PRO BONO AWARDS

We are honored to report that Sheppard Mullin recently received two extraordinary pro bono awards. In such a challenging year, our lawyers rose to the occasion including by creating nationally recognized programs to promote safe policing, successfully litigating for the disclosure of records of police misconduct, helping those devastated by COVID-19, achieving justice and equality for people with disabilities, and reinforcing our commitment to pro bono. Ultimately, the awards reflect our commitment to justice, equality, and doing the right thing.

- **ABA's 2021 Pro Bono Publico Award:** The annual award honors the outstanding pro bono commitments of five individual lawyers or legal institutions. Sheppard Mullin, the only law firm honored this year, will receive the award during the ABA's Annual Meeting, August 4-10, 2021. The firm is being honored for its pro bono work responding to the racial justice movement, the COVID-19 pandemic, fighting for the rights of people with disabilities, and internally reinforcing its commitment to pro bono. "What a humbling honor for Sheppard Mullin to receive this tremendous recognition from the ABA," said Dan Brown, Sheppard Mullin's Pro Bono Partner and a past recipient of a prior Pro Bono Publico Award. "We are so privileged to work at a law firm that supports and encourages our attorneys to take on matters free of charge when there is an opportunity to help our communities on an individual or systemic basis."
- **2021 Beacon of Justice Award:** Sheppard Mullin also was awarded the Beacon of Justice Award from the National Legal Aid & Defender Association ([NLADA](#)), an award recognizing law firms that have provided an exemplary commitment to pro bono, with this year's focus placed on pro bono work addressing systemic racial disparities in 2020. The award was bestowed at NLADA's virtual gala, Redefining Justice: Celebrating Tenacious Heroes, on June 9, 2021. "This recognition is a testament to our firm's commitment and dedication to give back to the communities in which we live. Our attorneys and staff around the globe are committed to being part of the solution to help communities affected by racial disparity," said Chair Guy Halgren.

Our pro bono work recognized by the ABA and NLADA includes:

- creating the nation's first Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) program, a nationwide initiative to build a culture of peer intervention among police officers;
- establishing Effective Law Enforcement For All (ELE4A) to help reimagine law enforcement around principles of leadership, education, accountability and practices;
- leading successful litigation to obtain disclosure of records of police misconduct;
- publishing The Police Transparency Guide with the First Amendment Coalition;
- managing all legal aspects to execute a plan to manufacture and distribute 30,000 face shields to frontline heroes in Los Angeles;
- providing legal assistance to small businesses and tenants affected by the pandemic;
- providing business advice that "saved" the Los Angeles Opera;
- successfully litigating for voting rights for people with disabilities in Virginia and West Virginia; and
- obtaining a significant appellate court decision in a novel case seeking to make New York City's subways accessible for people with disabilities.

We thank all who participated in these amazing efforts.

American Bar Association Awards Sheppard Mullin
2021 Pro Bono Publico Award

HELPING CLIENTS SUCCEED

Sheppard Mullin lawyers work on a range of litigation and transactions to help our clients succeed. Here are just a few examples of our work over the last quarter:

AIRFRANCE 

Air France – Because of its leading EU State aid practice, our Brussels office advised Air France-KLM, a leading global player in its principal businesses of passenger and cargo transportation, low-cost operations and aircraft maintenance, in securing EU approval for up to €4 billion in French State-backed aid to recapitalize Air France (KLM excluded). The European Commission concluded in early April 2021 that this financial support will help Air France-KLM overcome the impact from the COVID-19 crisis and plan for the future, while maintaining the necessary safeguards to limit competition distortions. The French State support is in the form of a recapitalisation for a total amount of up to € 4 billion, which includes: (i) the conversion of a € 3 billion French State loan into a hybrid instrument, and (ii) a capital injection up to € 1 billion in which the French State will contribute alongside private participation. This is the first step of a broader recapitalisation plan in order to strengthen the financial profile of Air France. Sheppard Mullin, together with the French State's counsel, advised on all EU State aid law issues, in particular on the necessity, appropriateness and size of the French State's intervention, on the conditions for the State's capital injection and remuneration, on governance commitments as well as on specific commitments to preserve effective competition. Brussels partner **Jacques Derenne** led this matter.

Alkuri Global

Alkuri Global Acquisition Corp. – We served as regulatory counsel to Alkuri Global Acquisition Corp. (NASDAQ: KURI), a special purpose acquisition company, in its definitive merger agreement with Babylon Holdings Limited., a world leading, digital-first value-based care company, for approximately \$4.2 billion. Upon closing of the transaction, the combined company will operate as Babylon and plans to trade on Nasdaq under the new symbol "BBLN". The transaction is expected to close in the second half of 2021. The team that represented Alkuri Global was led by Century City partner **Eric Klein** and New York partner **Matthew Shatzkes** and included numerous specialists in the areas of healthcare compliance, fraud and abuse, telehealth, managed care, health plans, FDA compliance, artificial intelligence and licensure.


cameo

Cameo – We represented Cameo, the leading digital platform connecting fans directly with their favorite pop culture icons via personalized video messages, live calls and direct messages, in a \$100 million Series C financing round. Led by the global investment firm e.ventures, the round also included a host of strategic investors, including GV (formerly Google Ventures), and Amazon's Alexa Fund; growth investors, including SoftBank Vision Fund II, Valor Equity Partners, and Counterpoint Global (Morgan Stanley); and a number of Cameo talent investors, including legendary skateboarder and entrepreneur Tony Hawk. Cameo's existing investors - Lightspeed, Kleiner Perkins, Spark Capital, The Chernin Group, and Origin Ventures - also participated. With this funding round, Cameo is now valued at more than \$1 billion. The deal was led by Century City partner **Daniel Belzer**.


A  Sempra Energy utility®

San Diego Gas & Electric – We represented San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) in their acquisition of critical wireless spectrum assets for \$50 million in the 900 MHz band from Anterix as part of SDG&E's efforts to build and operate a private LTE network. This private LTE network represents a cutting-edge development in utility smart grid operations and will support key wildfire mitigation efforts across SDG&E's service territory in Southern California. This complex transaction is only the second 900 MHz band transaction to occur after the FCC concluded a years-long proceeding in May 2020, freeing up six megahertz of spectrum in the 900 MHz band for broadband and paving the way for utilities to deploy private LTE to support smart grids. The transaction further solidifies SDG&E's position as a nationwide leader in wildfire mitigation efforts and advanced utility communication networks. The transaction was led by Washington, D.C. partners **Brian Weimer** and **Drew Svor**.



Sizzler® Family Restaurants – The San Francisco bankruptcy team successfully reorganized the parent and franchisor of Sizzler® Family Restaurants, including 14-company owned restaurants and more than 90 franchised locations under subchapter V of chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Code. The reorganization included the restructuring of Sizzler's balance sheet via a combination of conversion of debt to equity, rejection of leases at underperforming locations, and a projected payment to general unsecured creditors of 8-17% on account of their claims. The team confirmed the subchapter V plan in just 14 weeks, over the objections of the Subchapter V Trustee and a landlord creditor. The team was led by San Francisco partner **Ori Katz**.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Our CLE programs continue to be primarily virtual, with a few offering a hybrid approach. Upcoming events where our lawyers are speaking include, among others:

- [Alcoholism and the Legal Profession](#) (July 21, 2021, Assn. of Corporate Counsel San Diego webinar)
- [How to Handle Ransomware: A Threat Briefing](#) (July 27, 2021, co-sponsored Unit 42 at Palo Alto Networks)
- [Wage and Hour Laws](#) (September 14, 2021, Castle Publications event, live at the DoubleTree Hotel in Monrovia, CA and via Zoom)
- [Employment Discrimination and Employee Relations Laws](#) (September 15, 2021, Castle Publications event, live at the DoubleTree Hotel in Monrovia, CA and via Zoom)
- [Employee Handbook and Personnel Policies](#) (September 21, 2021, Castle Publications event, live at the DoubleTree Hotel in Monrovia, CA and via Zoom)

Please visit our [Events](#) page to learn more about upcoming webinars including dates, time, speakers and registration information. You can also view recordings of past webinars at www.sheppardmullin.com/newsroom-events.html.



NEW PODCAST LAUNCHES FOR FRENCH COMPANIES DOING BUSINESS IN THE U.S.

In June, Sheppard Mullin launched “French Insider,” a monthly podcast designed to assist and inform French companies and entrepreneurs of the business, legal and regulatory issues and related risks they may face when entering and growing their businesses in the United States and how to navigate these challenges to succeed. This is the firm’s second podcast, with *Nota Bene* launching in 2018.

Supported by Sheppard Mullin’s [French Desk](#) team, “French Insider” hosts will interview entrepreneurs and other experts who will tell their stories and share what they have learned to help French companies and entrepreneurs with their businesses and investments in the United States.

“We hope we can help our listeners be more successful in the U.S.,” said New York partner Valérie Demont, co-leader of the firm’s French Desk team. “Given our Franco-American team’s significant experience both in the U.S. and France, we are ideally suited to provide insights and offer practical advice to French companies, and our guests will bring incredible knowledge, expertise and insights to the conversation.”

To listen to the first three episodes, subscribe on your favorite podcaster or visit the French Insider podcast page at: <https://www.sheppardmullin.com/podcasts-french-insider-podcast>.

CONTACT US

For more information about our alumni program, to notify us of a job change, subscribe to a blog, or register for events, please contact Alumni Program leader Michelle O'Driscoll. We look forward to hearing from you and staying in touch.



Michelle O'Driscoll

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We encourage you to follow us on social media to hear the latest developments, from daily blog posts to upcoming events to pro bono news.



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