

20 January 2022

Payne Hicks Beach Partner and Legal Director Promotions

Leading London law firm, Payne Hicks Beach, is pleased to announce the promotion of two of its Senior Associates - Chris Weaver to Partner and Charlotte Skea-Strachan to Legal Director.

Chris Weaver

Chris qualified as a solicitor in 2005, before joining Payne Hicks Beach's award-winning Employment Law department in 2009 as an Associate. He was promoted to Senior Associate in 2015.

An employment law expert with over 15 years' experience, Chris advises both employers and employees on a range of high-value and complex matters. His areas of expertise include advising on the departure of directors and senior executives, redundancy consultation exercises and business reorganisations, disciplinary investigations, and TUPE. Chris also has extensive experience advising corporate clients on all aspects of UK data protection law, GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 compliance.

Charlotte Skea-Strachan

Charlotte joined the Family department in 2006. Charlotte has rapidly risen through the ranks of the firm, being promoted to Senior Associate in 2015 and to Legal Director in 2021.

Charlotte advises on all areas of family law, both contentious and non-contentious, particularly in relation to high value cases, and those with a complex international aspect. Charlotte has extensive expertise in pre- and mid-nuptial agreements, divorce, co-habitation and complex financial disputes. She is also an expert in private children matters, including advising on with whom children are to live and spend their time, and applications for leave for children to move to a different country. Charlotte is ranked as a "Rising Star" and recognised as '*enormously helpful*' by Legal 500.

For further information
please contact:

Ruth Napier

Director of Marketing

020 7465 4417

rnapi@phb.co.uk

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Amongst a number of other high-profile cases, Charlotte was part of the team that represented the wife in the case of **Owens v Owens** - the case that famously led to the introduction of the Divorce, Dissolution and Separation Act 2020, which is due to come into force in April 2022, allowing for 'no fault' divorce in England and Wales.

Robert Brodrick, Chair of the Management Board, comments:

"On behalf of the Management Board, I would like to congratulate both Chris and Charlotte on their richly-deserved promotions. It has been fantastic to see them grow and develop as highly-skilled experts in their respective fields during their time at Payne Hicks Beach. We look forward to seeing what the future holds for these extremely talented lawyers."

Chris Weaver, Partner at Payne Hicks Beach, comments:

"I am incredibly proud to be joining the partnership of Payne Hicks Beach and I am looking forward to continuing to help my clients deal with their most difficult employment issues in this next chapter of my career."

Charlotte Skea-Strachan, Legal Director at Payne Hicks Beach, comments:

"I am delighted to be promoted to Legal Director. I have been privileged to work alongside the best family solicitors in the country, as well as developing my own legal practice, over the last 15 years. As our firm goes from strength to strength, I am excited to continue my journey."

Ends

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Notes to Editors

About Payne Hicks Beach

- Payne Hicks Beach LLP has 90 lawyers and provides specialist legal services to private and commercial clients.
- The firm has a reputation for handling complex problems. They provide solutions that are incisive, straightforward and creative.
- The structure and commitment to outstanding client service means that all their specialist advisers work closely with each other to deliver seamless advice across their practice areas.

Press Enquiries:

Jonathan Harris, 07522 574 293 [/jonathan@byfieldconsultancy.com](mailto:jonathan@byfieldconsultancy.com)

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