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Longtime Murtha Cullina Partner Elected To ALI **Membership**

By Sameer Rao

Law360 (August 6, 2021, 2:59 PM EDT) -- New Haven, Connecticut-based Murtha Cullina LLP attorney and former managing partner Jennifer Morgan DelMonico has been elected to the American Law Institute's exclusive membership roster, the law firm said Thursday.

DelMonico's ascent to the American Law Institute, a professional and advisory organization dedicated to legal world advocacy and research, is the latest honor in her long career of trial law practice and service, the firm said. The corporate litigator, who specializes in various tort and liability matters, completed a six-year stint as the firm's managing partner last year. She was also previously the partner-in-charge for Murtha Cullina's New Haven office, as well as chair of its litigation department.

A partner since 2005, DelMonico's trial successes include defending



Jennifer Morgan DelMonico

GoDaddy against a patent infringement claim, protecting a medical device manufacturer from product defectiveness and personal injury liability accusations and several cases that involved matters of first impression under Connecticut law. DelMonico was not immediately available for comment Friday.

Outside the firm, DelMonico serves as board treasurer for independent law firm network Lex Mundi Ltd. She is additionally a current James W. Cooper Fellow with the Connecticut Bar Foundation and erstwhile chair of both the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce and the Connecticut Business and Industry Association.

Other members of the ALI potentially considered this background when electing her to the membership. Senior membership manager Jane E. Giacinto on Friday explained that prospective members must first be confidentially nominated by a current member. Two other members must then submit seconding letters of support that explain the candidate's qualifications and achievements. The ALI's standing membership committee subsequently votes on the nominee and, if its members approve and the candidate consents, elevates them to the organization's governing council for final confirmation.

If elected, the member is expected to work on the ALI's constituent projects, speak for a continuing legal education event, attend the organization's annual meeting or otherwise "participate in the work of the Institute in a significant way," the website details. DelMonico underwent this process in June and joins 40 other new members that span the country and have various occupations, from legal scholars to Indigenous nations' attorneys general to federal district judges. One other new member, former federal judge and current Day Pitney LLP partner Christopher F. Droney, hails from Connecticut.

Giacinto said that members have primary control over how they wish to work with the ALI.

Institute President and Duke University School of Law professor David F. Levi praised these new members and highlighted their importance to the ALI's continuing relevance in a statement.

"The election of new members is an important part of keeping the ALI fresh and strong," he said. "The collective wisdom of our diverse membership leads to the development of clear, knowable,

practical, and generally applicable rules and doctrines in our publications, which have been trusted in the legal community for nearly 100 years. I am pleased to welcome this new group of practicing lawyers, academics, and state and federal judges, and look forward to their many contributions to the work of the ALI."

Murtha Cullina leaders did not immediately return comment requests sent via a spokesperson Friday.

--Additional reporting by Kat Greene. Editing by Alyssa Miller.

Update: This story has been updated with details and comment from the American Law Institute staff and president.

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