



## 40 UNDER 40

Global Investigations Review presents  
40 of the world's leading investigations  
lawyers under the age of 40.

At the beginning of 2014, we asked ourselves a question: Who are the next generation that will lead the global investigations bar?

It's a difficult one. For a start, it's not clear there's even a current generation of global investigations luminaries – at least not in the same way as there is in, say, M&A or arbitration. Today, few people introduce themselves as an investigations lawyer. In the US they're typically a litigator, a white-collar lawyer, or a financial services expert. But with the explosion of investigations work in the post-Enron, Sarbanes-Oxley era, a new species is emerging.

Across the pond, the idea is taking hold too. In 2010, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer launched its global investigations practice – the world's first, at least by name – recognising that by realigning its various practices under one roof, the firm could more effectively handle multilateral investigations of all types. Other firms have also adopted similar approaches in recent times – particularly those from the English-speaking world, but there's change afoot in other countries too.

With all this in mind, we asked firms across the world to nominate their best investigations partners under the age of 40. And we're going to stick our necks out and say that what we have here is the best of the first generation of global investigations lawyers.

The 40 were self-selecting to some degree. We asked firms to nominate no more than three of their best partners or counsel under the age of 40 at the end of 2013.

To help us make an informed judgement, we required each nomination to be accompanied by three references explaining why the nominee is a cut above the rest: one from

another partner, or a senior colleague at the same firm; one from a client; and a third from another source of the nominee's choosing. Importantly, we also asked each nominee to detail the five best matters they've worked on.

The volume and calibre of the nominations we received was outstanding. These truly are the world's best young investigations specialists: one look at the significance of the cases they're working on, the praise from their clients and, indeed, the quality of the firms they're working for will confirm this. We would love to have published the submissions we received from our candidates, but ultimately the sensitivity of the information precluded us from doing so.

The margin between those who made it into the final 40 and those who didn't was for the most part extremely slim. We're unashamed to say that where the difference between two candidates was negligible, we erred on the side of diversity.

So among our 40 we have 13 women and 27 men from 33 different firms, based in 11 different cities: Beijing, Calgary, Dublin, Düsseldorf, Hong Kong, London, Moscow, New York, San Francisco, São Paulo, and Washington, DC.

After deciding our final 40, we asked each of them a series of questions about themselves and their practice. From adventures down Bolivian mines and corruption in Afghanistan, to eating McDonald's on a Saturday morning and fine dining in Hong Kong, the results, we think you'll agree, make compelling reading.

The full versions of all 40 profiles can be read online at [globalinvestigationsreview.com](http://globalinvestigationsreview.com)



## ***Michael Diamant***

Gibson Dunn & Crutcher  
Washington, DC  
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### Why investigations?

It is always fresh and exciting. I've had the privilege of travelling all over the world, meeting new people in new environments, and having clients trust me with their most sensitive matters. I am always grateful when a client asks us to help on an investigation because that implicitly entrusts us with the outcome of an issue that often poses a serious risk to the client.

### Career highlight

I have had many challenging experiences that have helped to define my career to date. One matter that jumps out – and one that I can disclose publicly – was working on the FCPA monitorship for Siemens AG. My partner, Joe Warin, was appointed US counsel to Siemens's independent compliance monitor, and I worked with Joe and the rest of the Gibson Dunn team to help Siemens and conclude the monitorship successfully and on time. Given the nearly unparalleled breadth of Siemens's business and compliance operations and the high-profile nature of its FCPA settlement, the monitorship was both an exciting opportunity and a formative experience.

### Influences

The co-chair of our practice group at Gibson Dunn, Joe Warin, has been my mentor since I started at the firm. Working with him on challenging, high-profile matters since my first day as a lawyer has been a great privilege. He has basically taught me what I need to know to do this work and instilled the core disciplines needed to provide the highest level of service to our clients.

### If you hadn't been a lawyer...

A historian.

### Advice to young lawyers

Always keep challenging yourself. This area of practice is changing rapidly; seek out the difficult and novel matters to stay ahead of the curve.

### What's everyone talking about?

One constant topic of conversation is the increasing complexity of our work as everything becomes more and more internationalised. Many of our investigations are cross-border and implicate multiple jurisdictions – sorting out what that means for the underlying facts, as well as for the investigative activities themselves, is an ever-present challenge.

### What's next in investigations?

The internationalisation of the practice. Our clients are ever more sensitive to the need to hire external counsel to assist with their most significant investigative activities. The collateral risks of tag-along enforcement actions in different jurisdiction and civil actions from shareholders or competitors has made everyone much more cognisant of the need to avoid missteps and preserve privilege.

### The most interesting place your job has taken you

Tough to pick one spot, but I found Baku, Azerbaijan to be fascinating.

### Favourite restaurant

My favourite restaurant was a small walk-up in DC's Chinatown, called Burma. Unfortunately, it closed at the end of 2013.