

## BOUTIQUE LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Pro-Legal

### NORTHRIDGE LAW JON WALTERS

#### THE EPITOME OF A SUCCESSFUL BOUTIQUE

This newcomer, a spin-off of Charles Russell Speechlys' sports law team in late 2017, has quickly become the quintessential boutique practice: tightly focused, lean and commercially successful. Year one has seen striking growth for the firm. From a day-one headcount of 16 fee-earners, it has hired nine new lawyers in a year. The introduction of a profit-sharing pool for all staff, effectively 'making staff a fifth partner in the business', has driven minimum expected compensation to well above magic circle levels. Clients include the FA and a suite of individual Premier League players. Industry-shaping work includes the independent review of integrity in tennis, the RFL's restructuring of the Super League, and The FA's launch of the Women's Super League. One client puts it succinctly: 'The greatest compliment I can pay the team at Northridge is that they aren't like other lawyers. They understand our business and our industry... They don't tell me the law, they tell me what to do.'

#### **HIGHLY COMMENDED**

#### COOKE, YOUNG & KEIDAN ROBERT COFFEY

Another disputes boutique punching above its weight in the London litigation arena, CYK saw revenue growth of 29% in the last year and generates 75% of its income from areas outside financial services. Under the leadership of a new managing partner, Robert Coffey, who joined in September 2017, the firm has diversified its litigation practice, grown its partnership with three new partners, and recruited seven additional fee earners.

#### COMMENDED BDM LAW

#### NICK BURGESS

Shipping, trade and insurance specialist BDM has performed exceptionally since establishing in 2015. Clients include the International Group of P&I Clubs, which collectively insures the liabilities of around 90% of the world's fleet and the firm predicts turnover for 2019 of over £3m.

#### CANDEY ASHKHAN CANDEY, ANDREW DUNN

With an ever-growing reputation in the City disputes market, this 20-lawyer firm regularly clashes with some of the UK's biggest firms in the courtroom – little wonder, then, that PEP is in excess of £3m. Highlights include a third vital win for client Peak Hotels and Resorts against KPMG in the Court of Appeal.

#### FOX & PARTNERS CATRIONA WATT

Founded in 2006 by veteran partnership law specialist Ronnie Fox, this employment practice has gone from strength to strength, culminating in a successful handover of the business to its current three-partner team. Revenues are projected to grow by more than 25% in 2018/19.

#### IGNITION LAW ALEX McPHERSON

A spin-off from successful boutique gunnercooke in 2017, Ignition has hit the ground running. In 2018, turnover increased by 63% to £2.35m compared to its first months of operation the year before. A strong operations team means that the percentage of clients with outstanding invoices over 90 days old is only 2%.

#### KEMP LITTLE ANDREW JOINT

One of the most established specialist practices in City law, Kemp Little has been a successful operation since 1997. This

a successful operation since 1997. This technology specialist has adapted to the market so successfully over the years that it is now a £13.7m business.

# **Opportunity Awaits...**

Recruiting across all levels within the legal profession in private practice and commerce & industry, we provide specialist career advice and market insight to help you find the right job to fast-track your career and stay up-to-date with everything you need to know in the legal market.

Whether you are looking for legal talent to join your team or are exploring opportunities to further your career, we can provide an informed, effective and bespoke service.

Nick Allen Head of Legal T: 020 7269 6328 E: nick.allen@pro-legal.co.uk pro-recruitment.co.uk



Our network. Our know-how.