

Law.com: How I Made Partner: 'Give Every Assignment Your Full Attention,' Says Nicholas Maxwell of Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna

, 41, Partner at Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna, New York City

Practice area: Policyholder-side insurance recovery

Law school and year of graduation: University of Texas School of Law, 2011

The following has been edited for style.

How long have you been at the firm?

Three years

What was your criteria in selecting your current firm?

Having practiced in the insurance recovery space for several years before joining Cohen Ziffer Frenchman & McKenna, I knew what I was looking for: A firm that does not shy away from complex, high-stakes, high-dollar litigations and can go toe-to-toe with the biggest and best insurer-side firms. I was also looking for the collegiality of a boutique, but with the reputation and manpower needed to attract large corporate policyholders across various industries. It was clear to me as a potential lateral

that that is what Cohen Ziffer offers. And the excitement of coming in on the ground floor at a brand new, woman-led firm (we opened our doors a month before I joined) was an added bonus.

What I didn't realize until joining the firm was how it achieves this consistent success. We have a true "work hard play hard" mentality and a sincere commitment to every single case. Even though the firm was fully remote at the time I joined, I quickly got to know my new colleagues and found my way into substantive roles on interesting matters. Cohen Ziffer is on the up and up, and it's exciting to be part of that.

Were you an associate at another firm before joining your present firm? If so, which one and how long were you there?

I spent nine years with Anderson Kill in New York and Philadelphia before making the transition to Cohen Ziffer.

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