

Brownstein Forms Crisis Management Practice Group With Ample DC Footprint

BY RYAN LOVELACE

Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck has created a new crisis management practice group consisting of “veterans from the communications battlefield” with experience across the legal, government relations and public relations industries.

The new practice will be led by shareholder Mitch Langberg, based in Las Vegas and California, and chief culture and communications officer Lara Day, the firm announced Wednesday.

“Our team provides guidance and counsel to clients navigating crisis situations where time is of the essence,” Day said in a statement. “Because we’re a one-stop shop, we act quickly to get to the root of the crisis, find a solution, identify the resources required and get our clients back to focusing on what is most important to them.”

The group’s roster also has a strong D.C. component, including Marc Lampkin, managing partner of Brownstein’s Washington, D.C., office; Nadeam Elshami, a policy director and former chief of staff to House Speaker Nancy Pelosi; senior partner Kenneth Khachigian, a veteran of the Nixon and Reagan administrations and adviser to multiple GOP presidential campaigns; Greg Brower, the FBI’s former top congressional liaison who joined Brownstein last year; Drew Littman, policy director and former senior counselor to former Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia Mathews Burwell; and shareholder William Moschella, former principal associate deputy attorney general.

“Helping clients with crisis management is something we’ve always done,” said Rich Benenson, Brownstein’s managing partner, in a statement. “Formally creating this group makes sense. Our clients are increasingly turning to our team because their multidisciplinary skill sets, combined with their deep knowledge of their business, enables us to quickly and



(Photo: Courtesy Photo)

Lara Day (left), chief culture and communications officer, and Mitchell Langberg (right), shareholder of Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck.

effectively triage an issue to create a strategic communications plan to protect their reputations.”

Clients in needs of crisis communications services are increasingly turning to lawyers, who are able to protect sensitive communications by exercising their attorney-client privilege, and Big Law firms have not shied away from the action.

Brownstein, an Am Law Second Hundred firm with a Denver base, has begun making waves in Washington due to the success of its federal lobbying work. Brownstein surpassed Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld as the nation’s top-grossing federal lobbying practice for the second quarter of 2019 by a slight margin of \$10,000.

Benenson has said Brownstein is in “growth mode” in D.C., and its lobbying efforts and new practice offering suggest there is more yet to come.

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