

## Covington Adds Former Biden White House Counsel

By Rachel Rippetoe

*Law360 (January 18, 2024, 4:54 PM EST)* -- Continuing its January hiring spree, Covington & Burling LLP has hired a former deputy White House counsel to President Joe Biden to serve as co-chair of its government litigation practice in Washington, D.C., the firm announced Thursday.

Stacey Grigsby is rejoining Covington, where she was a partner before she took on a role in the White House counsel's office in April 2020, advising on a range of civil rights matters.

Grigsby said in a statement Thursday that she chose to rejoin Covington because of the "unique culture of collaboration and teamwork," along with the "strong relationships" she had formed there.

"I look forward to helping the firm expand client relationships across its litigation and investigations practices," she said.

Grigsby, according to the statement, will also serve as a senior member of the firm's institutional culture and social responsibility practice, where she will lead civil rights or racial equity audits.

Aaron Lewis, co-chair of that practice, said in a statement that Grigsby has advised the Biden administration on "some of the most significant recent civil rights issues," including what to do in the wake of the Supreme Court's decisions on abortion and affirmative action.

"Given her unique experience at the center of the executive branch's decision-making on civil rights matters and issues related to diversity, equity, and inclusion, Stacey will be an integral resource for clients facing increasing scrutiny from internal and external stakeholders related to workplace culture and DEI commitments," he said.

John Hall, chair of Covington's global litigation practice, said Grigsby's experience in government will help her lead the government litigation practice, where she will represent clients in a range of federal and state government-facing suits, including challenges to government actions, contract disputes, bid protests and allegations of misconduct and fraud.

She can also pull on her time at the U.S. Department of Justice. Before she was a partner at Covington initially, Grigsby served for eight years as a trial attorney, then senior trial attorney, then counsel to the



Stacey Grigsby

associate general at the DOJ. According to the statement, while at the DOJ, she assisted in negotiations to resolve a number of civil fraud negotiations.

"She will build upon her recent high-level government experience by focusing on government-facing litigation, as well as leading investigations that implicate institutional culture, social responsibility, and equity," Hall said. "We have significant practices in both of these areas, and Stacey will add important breadth and depth to our team and significantly enhance our ability to advocate for our clients."

Grigsby will also be a member of the firm's commercial litigation practice.

Grigsby is not the first lawyer Covington has added to its ranks this month. The firm added ex-Proskauer Rose LLP sports league adviser Andrew Nightingale to its New York office and also hired two longtime Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky and Popeo PC attorneys for its restructuring and bankruptcy practice in Los Angeles.

--Editing by Stephen Berg.