



THIRTY UNDER 40

Earlier this year we launched our search for the rising stars of the private funds legal world. Trusted contacts, industry participants and the law firms themselves nominated both colleagues and peers, and in total we were sent 129 profiles of high-achieving lawyers under the age of 40 based around the world.

Competition was stiff, which made the judging process challenging, but nominees were whittled down to a final list of 30 based on their career progress, their client base, notable work to date and their X Factor - many of those on the list today are engaged in good-will work outside of their funds practice.

The list follows and, we're sure you'll agree, each and every one of them deserves to be there.





Marie-Laure Bruneel, 39

Goodwin

Paris

Head of tax practice

Known for her willingness to fully immerse herself in the matters she handles, Marie-Laure Bruneel advises on the tax aspects of structuring and financing mergers and acquisitions, private equity acquisitions and fund formation. She also works with real estate firms on investments and restructurings. Bruneel was an associate at the age of 21 and made partner by 32, and she has been a key driver in the growth of Goodwin's private equity practice. Recent client work includes representing investment funds such as listed firm Eurazeo and Equistone. She has also co-authored several publications including the first book in the French market on REITs.



Paul Cicero, 39

Goodwin

New York

Partner, private equity

Paul Cicero's practice has been described as unique in the New York market in that he represents investors across each stage of the investment lifecycle, ranging from leveraged buyouts to growth equity all the way down to seed investments. His current client base includes three of Bain Capital's proprietary funds. He focuses on representing socially conscious investors with funds such as Environmental Capital Partners which focus on investing in environmentally friendly platforms. Last year he helped Goodwin launch its Impact & Responsible investing incubator dedicated to advising clients on social impact investing relating to ESG and sustainability certifications and much more.



Brian McPeake, 38

Goodwin

San Francisco

Partner, private equity

Considered a key driver of the growth of Goodwin's private equity practice in San Francisco, Brian McPeake has helped the firm position itself in mid-market M&A in the Bay area. He takes the lead on notable transactions, most recently advising Goldman Sachs in connection with its and its existing investors \$41 million funding of consumer healthcare platform Vitals. He also supported JMI Equity on its £32 million investment into UK-headquartered software company Avecto. Both a personal and professional mentor to Goodwin associates, McPeake operates an open-door policy and believes in developing others' talents through coaching, delegation and involvement.