



CDLB People

By [Spencer Post](#)

spost@lawbulletinmedia.com

POSTED June 7, 2021 11:28 AM



Paul J. Hanly Jr.



Kathleen M. Short



Laura A. Seferian

Benesch Friedlander Coplan & Aronoff LLP added **Laura A. Seferian** as an associate to its Litigation Practice Group. She was previously an associate at Dentons.

Seferian's practice is focused on commercial litigation, primarily handling breach of contract, fraud and intellectual property disputes.

•

Sweeney Scharkey & Blanchard LLC added **Kathleen M. Short** as an associate in the firm's Trials & Controversies group.

Short handles commercial business disputes including in the financial services, staffing, industrial and manufacturing space.

•

Simmons Hanly Conroy shareholder **Paul J. Hanly, Jr.** died May 22 at the age of 70 after a long battle with anaplastic thyroid cancer.

The New York-based attorney was appointed as co-lead counsel in 2018 and oversaw a national, multidistrict suit against opioid manufacturers. He also represented Cook, McHenry, DuPage, Will and Kane counties in suits against multiple pharmaceutical manufacturers. In 2020, the National Law Journal honored him with its Lifetime Achievement Award, in part, for his work on the opioid cases, the firm's news release stated.