

Portfolio Media. Inc. | 230 Park Avenue, 7th Floor | New York, NY 10169 | www.law360.com Phone: +1 646 783 7100 | Fax: +1 646 783 7161 | customerservice@law360.com

Dunn DeSantis Expands Eastward With Pittsburgh Office

By James Boyle

Law360 (March 8, 2024, 4:25 PM EST) -- San Diego-based Dunn DeSantis Walt & Kendrick expanded its commercial litigation and business services to the mid-Atlantic region with the launch of an office in downtown Pittsburgh, which the firm said was prompted by client demand.

Dunn DeSantis opened its eighth office with the addition of the new location in Pittsburgh's historic downtown district, on the second floor at 428 Boulevard of the Allies. The office is operated by one attorney, Jason C. Hague, but partner David D. Cardone said he anticipates adding more talent soon.

"Candidly, we expect to grow quickly," Cardone told Law360 Pulse on Friday. "We have a lot of relationships with clients and insurance companies looking for us to make this East Coast expansion."



Jason C. Hague

A steady feed of client inquiries put Dunn DeSantis on the lookout for a new office to establish its presence east of the Mississippi, Cardone said. The firm's other offices include four in California and locations in Phoenix; Dallas; and Boise, Idaho.

"We never had an overarching strategic plan to grow," Cardone said. "This was done out of necessity as our clients and friends asked us several times to go to the East Coast. This organic growth was in response to those inquiries from clients and potential clients."

As the only attorney stationed in Dunn DeSantis' Pittsburgh office, Hague will provide clients with advice on general civil litigation, including commercial disputes and employment matters. His work will be supported remotely by administrative staff in the firm's San Diego office, Cardone said.

Hague joined the firm when the Pittsburgh office opened late last year, Cardone said, bringing local knowledge and familiarity for the West Coast-based firm. That local connection is also provided by Cardone, who grew up in the Pittsburgh area and went to law school with Hague at Duquesne University.

"We're not trying to infiltrate new areas," Cardone said. "We are responding to what our clients want. We've spent the first couple months getting the word out locally and building awareness."

Cardone said Dunn Desantis sets itself apart from other firms in Pittsburgh by having more of a national platform than others in the area.

"I would say a lot of the local firms are not connected to a national practice," Cardone said. "It's also highly unusual for a West Coast firm to develop in this direction. Usually, firms expand their business westward."

All Content $\ensuremath{\textcircled{C}}$ 2003-2024, Portfolio Media, Inc.