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## Saul Ewing Expands In Pittsburgh With 2 Attorneys

By **James Boyle**

Law360 (October 17, 2025, 4:19 PM EDT) -- A former assistant U.S. attorney in Michigan and an attorney with more than 20 years of experience advising clients on trusts and estates matters have recently moved their practices to Saul Ewing LLP's Pittsburgh office.

T. Patrick Martin and Julia Varholla have been welcomed this week to Saul Ewing's Pittsburgh office as partners in the litigation and trusts and estates practices, the firm announced Thursday. Martin told Law360 Plus in an interview Friday that the firm's reputation and depth of services were instrumental his decision to join Saul Ewing after two years as an assistant U.S. attorney in the Eastern District of Michigan.

"I was really impressed with the practice areas and the attorneys' level of commitment to getting results for their clients," Martin said. "Saul Ewing has a phenomenal reputation, and the firm is dedicated to its higher education practice, which is an area I am interested in."

Martin's practice assists clients with carrying out internal investigations and counsels them on any external scrutiny they receive from government agencies. His work includes assessing potential civil and criminal liability connected to government allegations and advising clients on how to reduce their criminal and civil exposure, the firm said in its announcement. Martin will also represent clients in litigation matters related to the investigations.

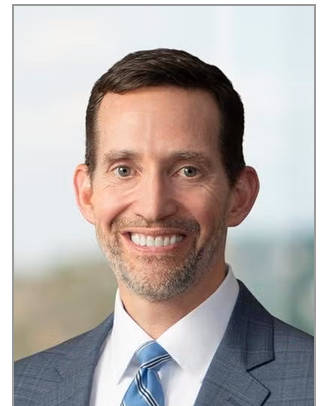
"My clients are any institutions facing intense government scrutiny," Martin said. "I assist them with any inquiries or requests for information, right up to and including criminal investigations. Higher learning institutions in particular have been experiencing more intensive scrutiny than ever before."

Martin will use his experience as an assistant U.S. attorney in Michigan and his more than 15 years with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the District of Columbia.

Varholla said in a statement to Law360 Pulse Friday afternoon that she moved to Saul Ewing to offer her clients the "benefits and expertise" of a full-service law firm.

"The trust and estates practice area intersects with so many other areas of the law such as real estate, contracts, corporate, tax, oil and gas, patents and more," Varholla said. "I was impressed by the deep bench of talented lawyers at Saul Ewing and the firm's excellent reputation. Just as importantly, though, for me, was the culture of the firm. Every person I have met at Saul Ewing has been so welcoming, friendly and collegial."

Varholla's practice advises clients on matters regarding estate planning and estate and trust administration, including issues regarding charitable giving, asset protection and preserving assets. She also advises trustees with respect to interpretation issues, fiduciary duties and responsibilities, relevant federal and state taxation issues, and general trust administration, the firm said in its announcement.



T. Patrick Martin



Julia Varholla

In her statement to Law360 Pulse, Varholla said she enjoys building relationships with her clients as they share "intimate details" about their lives.

"This requires a level of trust on a personal level that goes beyond the typical attorney-client relationship," Varholla said. "I find it very satisfying to help clients achieve their goals and solve problems by creating and implementing cohesive and tax-efficient estate plans. I particularly enjoy advising clients on sophisticated and creative estate planning techniques that enable them to create a lasting legacy for their loved ones. I find it fulfilling to use my experience and skills to help clients navigate the complexities of the estate administration process."

Martin earned his law degree from Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law in 1997 and started his legal career as an assistant general counsel for the U.S. Army. In 2001, he started a one-year stint as judicial law clerk in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia. He was welcomed to the U.S. attorney's office in Washington D.C. in 2005 and was eventually named chief of the criminal division in 2018.

In 2020, Martin moved to the National Insurance Crime Bureau as senior vice president and general counsel, and then returned to the public sector with the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Varholla earned her law degree from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 2004 and began her career with Lovett Bookman Harmon Marks, where she was made partner in 2018.

"Saul Ewing is excited to have Pat and Julia join our team," said Jared Hawk, office managing partner of the firm's Pittsburgh office. "Although they have distinct practices, both are united in their commitment to deeply understanding and addressing the specific needs of our clients, thereby strengthening the firm's capabilities in both trusts and estates law and white collar and government enforcement litigation."

--Editing by Rich Mills.