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Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney adds seven MM&L lawyers to its fold

Premium content from Pittsburgh Business Times by Patty Tascarella, Senior Reporter

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Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, Pittsburgh's third-largest law firm, has hired 11 members of the 12-employee Manion McDonough & Lucas PC.

Seven lawyers, all litigators, joined the firm May 16. [Joseph F. McDonough](#), [Kevin P. Lucas](#) and [James G. McLean](#) came aboard as shareholders, while [James R. Walker](#), [Robert D. Finkel](#), [Alexandra P. West](#) and [Erin Lucas Hamilton](#) are associates. Three administrators and a paralegal also joined Buchanan.

"We've been talking off and on to Joe and Kevin for some period of months," Buchanan CEO [Jack Barbour](#) said. "We know them well and they have excellent reputations."

McDonough said his firm had been approached by several other firms over the years, "but this just seemed right. Buchanan always stood out as a first-rate firm but with the right kind of profile — not too braggadocios or too self-assuming."

MM&L was founded by a handful of lawyers who left **Reed Smith LLP**, Pittsburgh's largest law firm, in 1985. One among that original group, [Paul Manion](#), 77, opted not to join Buchanan.

"He was invited to make this trip, but he decided to handle some matters on his own," McDonough said.

[Lori Carpenter](#), president of Carpenter Legal Search, a downtown-based recruitment firm, wasn't involved in the transaction, but described MM&L as "extremely well-regarded in the legal community" and called the transaction "a great coup" for Buchanan. She also believes it's likely more such deals will occur than in the recent past.

Buchanan employs around 190 lawyers in Pittsburgh; firmwide it counts 450 lawyers and government professionals. The firm lost seven litigators in March who departed to start a Pittsburgh office for San Francisco-based **Gordon & Rees LLP**.

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