

Steptoe partner to receive GIR outstanding career award

Roger Hamilton-Martin, 17 October 2017



Lucinda Low

Steptoe & Johnson partner Lucinda Low will be given this year's Outstanding Career Award at the annual GIR Awards ceremony in Washington, DC, on 26 October.

Low, who is based in the US capital where she leads a team of 30 lawyers, is a specialist in the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and international arbitration.

In a male-dominated field, Low has been a pioneer for women in white-collar investigations. In 2015, GIR named her in our Women in Investigations survey.

Low is a notable authority on FCPA matters, with a wealth of experience advising companies on internal investigations and enforcement proceedings. She is an expert on international bribery conventions from the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Organization of American States, United Nations and European Union.

Low has served on the US delegation to the OECD and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) on anti-corruption issues.

She has led investigations worldwide, including in inquiries related to World Bank projects.

Recently, Low served as counsel for German gas conglomerate Linde, securing a declination in June 2017 under the US Department of Justice's FCPA pilot programme.

Other FCPA representations include her work for the world's largest offshore oilfield services vessel company, Tidewater. After a far-reaching investigation crossing 12 countries, Low guided the company to a 2010 deferred prosecution agreement with US authorities over payments to government officials in Nigeria and Azerbaijan.

Low also served for eight years on the US Department of State's advisory committee on international law.

In September 2017, Low was appointed by World Bank President Jim Yong Kim to serve on the International Centre for Settlement of Investments Disputes (ICSID) Panel of Arbitrators. Low is the only US lawyer on the panel of 10.

GIR Global Investigations Review

She has been involved in arbitration for several decades, having been one of the first US lawyers to argue a claim before the Iran-US Claims Tribunal established in 1981.

Low has also served as president of an ICSID tribunal panel concerning a billion-dollar dispute between Italian banking group UniCredit against Croatia over financial legislation.

At Steptoe, Low is a member of the firm's management committee and head of the compliance, investigations, trade and enforcement department.

Low is a former chair of the American Bar Association's international law section. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of Transparency International USA, now known as the Coalition for Integrity.

Prior professorial appointments include adjunct professor positions at American University, Washington College of Law and at the University of Colorado School of Law. Low also speaks Spanish, French and Portuguese, with a smattering of Russian, Italian, and Japanese.