

# Greenberg Traurig Launches in Minneapolis

The office is the Miami-founded firm's 30th in the U.S. and 39th across the globe.

By Dan Packel  
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Greenberg Traurig has brought on three former DLA Piper partners to launch a new office in Minneapolis, the firm's 30th in the U.S. and 39th worldwide.

Finance and restructuring attorney Michael Fisco will serve as the managing shareholder of the new office. He is joined by shareholders Michael Krauss, a former federal prosecutor in New York's Southern District, and Arleen Nand, DLA Piper's former U.S. head of agricultural finance.

Greenberg Traurig CEO Brian Duffy identified three drivers for targeting Minneapolis.

"Number one, it's a great business community with one of the highest concentrations of corporate headquarters in the country. Number two, we have a number of clients that are headquartered there, that we know well and that know the city well," he said. "And number three, we found a great group of people who we wanted to practice law with and they wanted to practice law with us."

Duffy noted the firm was introduced to the new team through a mutual client.



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Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Fisco is a veteran of a number of Minneapolis and national firms. Before he joined DLA Piper in July 2017, he led the financial services industry team at Faegre Baker Daniels, the largest firm in Minnesota. Fisco joined predecessor firm Faegre & Benson in 2001 from Oppenheimer Wolff & Donnelly, where

he once chaired that firm's finance and restructuring group.

He represents indenture trustees, corporations and investment funds in distressed debt restructurings across the United States.

Fisco highlighted Greenberg's "strong firm culture of inclusion and a team approach to client representation."

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"That's what drew me and will be key to the team's success going forward with the clients we represent," he said.

His colleague Krauss also had a brief stay at DLA Piper, moving there in November 2017 from Faegre, where he spent over 13 years. He advises banks,

institutional trustees and investors on an array of complex financial disputes, including residential mortgage-backed securities litigation and actions alleging breach of trust.

Nand shares the same Faegre-to-DLA career trajectory, having spent 10 years at the former firm before moving in November 2014. She has represented banks, corporations, cooperatives and private equity firms with more than \$25 billion in cross-border and domestic leveraged financed transactions.

A spokesman for DLA Piper said the firm wishes the trio well.

Greenberg Traurig, meanwhile, intends to grow the Minneapolis office beyond the initial three attorneys.

"Our number one goal is to become a fully engaged part of the community, with the best legal talent that we can find, and build out a full-service Greenberg Traurig office in Minneapolis that is additive to the overall fabric of the firm," Duffy said.

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