

Anderson Kill & Olick, P.C.

1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10020-1182
Phone: (212) 278-1000
www.andersonkill.com

LOCATIONS

New York, NY (HQ)

Greenwich, CT • Newark, NJ •
Philadelphia, PA • Washington, DC

MAJOR DEPARTMENTS & PRACTICES

Bankruptcy & Restructuring • Business
Law • Corporate & Commercial
Litigation • Employment & Labor Law •
Employee Benefits & ERISA • Insurance
Recovery • Real Estate & Construction
• Trusts & Estates

THE STATS

No. of attorneys:

Firmwide: 74

New York: 52

No. of offices: 5

Summer associate offers (2008):

New York: 4 out of 4

President: Robert M. Horkovich

Hiring Partner: Edward J. Stein

UPPERS

- "Culture is laid-back, congenial and focused on individual achievement"
- "The minimum billables are 'true' minimums"

NOTABLE PERKS

- "Holiday party for lawyers'/staff's kids"
- Frequent happy hours
- Associates allowed to work from home if necessary

EMPLOYMENT CONTACT

Human Resources Department
Fax: (212) 278-1733
E-mail: careers@andersonkill.com

Please note that the firm will not be hiring law student summer associates for the summer of 2009. Qualified lateral candidates and judicial law clerks interested in junior associate opportunities at the firm may e-mail, or fax their credentials to the address and fax number above.

The following is independent Vault research

THE SCOOP

The year 2007 was full of change for Anderson Kill & Olick, P.C. The firm entered into merger discussions with Reed Smith LLP, a larger, international firm; those talks concluded amicably, but unsuccessfully, in January 2008. Ultimately, a total of 56 Anderson Kill lawyers left for Reed Smith. The firm publicly announced that, as a result of large shareholder loss, "it has restructured its lead practice areas to focus the firm's efforts on its core insurance recovery practice, along with other robust practices in corporate and securities, litigation, real estate and construction, tax, trusts and estates, bankruptcy and restructuring, and intellectual property."

Despite what must have been a lot of stress behind the scenes, Anderson Kill & Olick's attorneys logged several big wins and big cases in 2007. For example, the firm represents the state of California, which followed a 2005 jury trial victory (the nation's largest insurance recovery for that year, according to VerdictSearch) with a major precedent-setting appellate decision on environmental insurance coverage issues. The firm also represents casino operators in a multiparty property and business income case involving a more than \$1 billion insurance claim—in which approximately \$600 million has been paid to date—concerned with damage along the Gulf Coast from Hurricane Katrina. Also in 2007, the New York Supreme Court ruled in favor of Anderson Kill's client, the trustees of Princeton University, in litigation relating to the management of foundation funds given to the university; the trustees are entitled to receive defense costs up to the full \$15 million policy limit. The firm has also been engaged in several worldwide projects by the United Nations as its general insurance counsel. Due to matters like these, the firm was ranked first in the category of "Nationwide Insurance: Policy Holder" in Chambers USA 2007: America's Leading Lawyers for Business.

GETTING HIRED

Anderson Kill & Olick likes to hire self-starters. As an insider explains, it is "fairly competitive to get hired. Apart from the usual grade cutoffs, you must be a person who relishes being proactive. Many times as an associate, you are expected to complete tasks without much direction or guidance. If you don't know the answer, look it up or ask someone that knows." Also, we're told that "if you are looking for a job that will allow you

[to] sit back and be merely a cog in the machine, you will not get hired here."

OUR SURVEY SAYS

Anderson Kill & Olick's associates are a fairly happy group who love to have a good time. The firm is a "laid-back, wonderful place to work that rivals only government work," according to one insider. Another describes the firm as "congenial and focused on individual achievement. There really is no competition amongst associates. In fact, associates frequently socialize together both during and outside of work. It truly is wonderful to have people with whom you actually want to take coffee breaks and go out for drinks." According to associates, the firm "encourages socializing and frequent happy hours."

Perhaps one reason Anderson Kill associates are so satisfied is because they are not constantly billing time. An associate reports, "The minimum billables are 'true' minimums. You don't need to work more than 1,950 hours.

There is absolutely no face time required; in fact, such overtures are frowned upon by associates and most partners. That said, because [the firm's] litigation philosophy is to staff cases thinly, associates are given a large amount of responsibility, which does entail long hours. Completing your work, however, is wholly up to your discretion (provided, of course, that it is done on time)." Another peer adds that "the office is very flexible. Face time is not an issue. I usually work an hour or two at home every day."

Associates have mild complaints about the salary. "We are consistently slightly below market on pay. I wish they would pay more, but the trade-offs of incredible experience and amazing colleagues are well worth it," reports one attorney. Another source agrees that the salary is a "bit below market, but so are our hours. No complaints here." On the other hand, we're told that bonus opportunities yield compensation that is competitive with its peers.

Criticism of the firm's training opportunities is sharper. As a midlevel says, "Training here is simply average. While they purport to offer a comprehensive training program, most of the real training occurs by working on complex matters with established professionals. Since the quality of litigators at Anderson Kill & Olick is, in my opinion, unparalleled, your best bet to get training is to seek out work from those exceptional attorneys."