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## Lalive adds counsel in Geneva

By Tom Webb on Wednesday, 7 January 2015



Credit: Lalive.

Swiss firm Lalive promoted investigator and white-collar litigator [Sonja Maeder Morvant](http://globalinvestigationsreview.com/people/wwl/54458/sonja-maeder-morvant) (<http://globalinvestigationsreview.com/people/wwl/54458/sonja-maeder-morvant>) to counsel on 1 January.

Morvant, 35, told GIR she is “very honoured to have been promoted in a firm which has such high-quality lawyers.”

Morvant focuses on international corruption investigations and the defence of companies and individuals in criminal proceedings. She works closely with Lalive partners (<http://globalinvestigationsreview.com/article/672/marc-henzelin-european-investigations-swiss-banks-unusual-clients>) Marc Henzelin (<http://globalinvestigationsreview.com/people/wwl/41499/marc-henzelin>) and Alexander Troller in Geneva, and Simone Nadelhofer in Zurich.

Speaking to GIR, Henzelin said: “Lalive has become a major player on the scene for transnational criminal law in the last few years, in large part thanks to people like Sonja, who is widely known for her skills.

“Sonja has very good technical and strategic sense, and is a truly excellent litigator.”

Alongside her investigations and white-collar practice, Morvant acts in asset recovery proceedings. She is part of a Lalive team acting for Kenya's government in the wake of the Anglo Leasing corruption and fraud scandal.

A previous government had allegedly signed contracts with companies, including Anglo Leasing, that were subsequently found not to exist. The government received no goods or services from the contracts. Lalive is helping to freeze and reclaim assets held abroad.

Morvant joined Lalive in 2008 from Switzerland's Office of the Attorney General, where she investigated and prosecuted criminal offences related to Swiss national security, including attacks on diplomats. "It was really interesting work, but I believe my skills are better suited to defending rather than prosecuting," she said.

Morvant started her career in private practice at Ganonica & Associés in Geneva in 2005, before heading to the Office of the Attorney General in 2007.

In December 2014, Lalive promoted [Daniel Bühr](http://globalinvestigationsreview.com/article/2217/lalive-promotes-counsel-partner) to partner. (<http://globalinvestigationsreview.com/article/2217/lalive-promotes-counsel-partner>)

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