

## Office Snapshot: Fisher Phillips Feels 'Good Vibes' In Dallas

By Lynn LaRowe

*Law360 (July 24, 2024, 3:03 PM EDT)* -- In recently moving its Dallas shop to The Crescent building, Fisher Phillips is seeking to accommodate its growing roster in a larger space that the firm's city leader says provides "good vibes and great energy."

The firm announced last week that it has leased more than 10,000 square feet — 2,000 more than its previous space at the Lincoln Plaza in downtown Dallas — in part of the luxury, mixed-use development in the city's Harwood District.

Adam Sloustcher, who became regional managing partner of the Dallas office this month, said that he toured eight possible locations, and the space at The Crescent was "by far head and shoulders above the rest."

"It's difficult to find space here," Sloustcher said. "A lot of businesses have gobbled up the uptown space. It is a very bright and open space with good vibes and great energy. It's a great place to come to work."

### The Leader

Sloustcher's path to the law began with a passion for soccer.

Sloustcher said he played with a serious youth soccer league in middle school and into high school and eventually left home at 16 to live with about 40 other young soccer standouts in the U.S. soccer residency program in Florida. The team went to school together as they traveled throughout the year playing, and Sloustcher was later recruited to play soccer in college.

After earning his bachelor's degree from Loyola Marymount University, and after a few months playing Major League Soccer, Sloustcher said he



Fisher Phillips' new Dallas shop in the iconic Crescent Atrium is nestled in the triangular, low-rise portion of the mixed-use complex. (Courtesy of Fisher Phillips)



Adam F. Sloustcher

"sat down" with the president of his hometown soccer league, who was an attorney, and soon began working at his firm. A few years later, Sloustcher attended law school at the University of California College of the Law, San Francisco — formerly UC Hastings.

Nearly eight years after joining Fisher Phillips as an associate, Sloustcher is now co-chair of the firm's sports team.

The practice group is made up of former college and professional athletes who advise employers in the sports industry regarding compliance and managing controversies and defend clients before governmental, regulatory and administrative agencies and in other litigation matters, according to his firm bio.

Sloustcher said his experience playing soccer taught him "how to be a team player, how to be a good leader, how to be resilient."

"Obviously in law there's a ton of wins and a ton of losses," Sloustcher said. "It's all about how you bounce back. When I started practicing law, I just felt like everything I'd learned, balancing academics with athletics, all of the skills I learned as a student athlete definitely translated into being a successful litigator."

Sloustcher said that Michael Abcarian, who had helmed the Dallas office since it launched in 2005 with four attorneys, decided last year that he was ready to turn the reins over to someone else. Sloustcher said that after accepting the role of regional managing partner in Dallas, he began the process of getting licensed to practice law in Texas, which he recently completed.

"In the meantime, I've been in the background, recruiting five new lawyers who have joined us since January and moving our office space," Sloustcher said. "Now our goal is to build out our client base here and build our bench of lawyers here and have a stronger presence in the market."

## The Location

Sloustcher said he's looking forward to cooler temperatures in the fall so that he can take advantage of the Katy Trail near the new office in The Crescent building.

Klyde Warren Park is about a mile away, and downtown and the Arts District are within walking distance, Sloustcher said.

"Whether it's breakfast, lunch, dinner or happy hour, you have a million options you can get to by walking," Sloustcher said. "There are very nice hotels nearby, also within walking distance."

Sloustcher said the dining, shopping and lodging in the area means firm attorneys have lots of choices when it comes to meeting outside the office with colleagues or clients. The building's amenities include an outdoor patio, a fitness center and a spa.



An outdoor patio with seating that is part of Fisher Phillips' recently relocated Dallas office looks out onto a unique tree-filled atrium and life-sized game board. (Courtesy of Fisher Phillips)

As far as the new space, Sloustcher said the firm did very little beyond outfitting it with the latest technology.

"It was almost plug and play, which was another factor in why we selected it," Sloustcher said. "The move was really seamless. The most unique thing about this office is that it's wide open. The attorney offices are on the edges, and when you walk in you immediately see there is great space for interacting and teamwork. There is a lot of light and great energy. It really fits the culture of the firm."

The space has about 11 offices available for the 11-attorney Dallas roster, Sloustcher said.

"We haven't divided offices," Sloustcher said, noting that the group has opted for more of a "hoteling concept."

"We've got people spread out throughout Dallas and some want to be in every day and others don't need to be or want to be in every day," Sloustcher said. "This space really is a perfect place to do our work and serve clients in the best way possible."

## The Team

21 total employees  
6 partners  
3 of counsel  
2 associates  
10 other professionals

## The Work

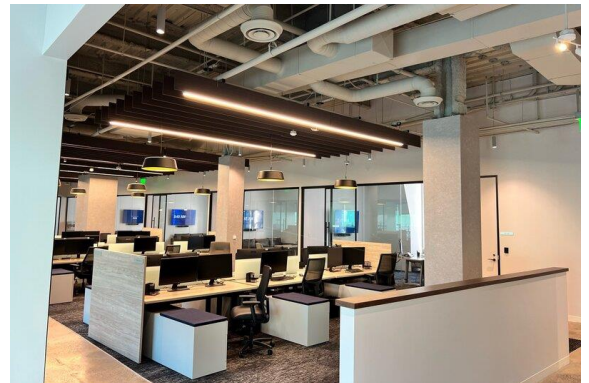
Fisher Phillips is a labor and employment firm that operates from locations across the U.S. and Mexico with Texas shops in Dallas and Houston.

Sloustcher said the team in Dallas is made up of "employment law generalists" who can help clients with any workplace-related issues. The office's clients come from a broad range of industries including sports, hospitality, automotive, transportation, healthcare, financial services and more.

"When an employer gets sued, we're representing them in that litigation but we're also providing advice to help them avoid a lawsuit altogether, how to mitigate their risk," Sloustcher said. "We see a lot of opportunity in Dallas, and we're looking to grow strategically."

Sloustcher said that as client demand drives the need for more attorneys, he will recruit the right lawyers.

"However we can best serve our clients, that's what we're going to do," Sloustcher said. "If that means we need to add more litigators or a tax specialist, we'll do that. It's client driven 100%."



Fisher Phillips' office in Dallas is open and bright with plenty of work spaces and offices for attorneys lining the edges. The new location is more than 10,000 square feet and within walking distance of countless dining, shopping and lodging options. (Courtesy of Fisher Phillips)

## Comings and Goings

This year, the firm has increased its headcount in Dallas with five new hires.

Partner Collin Brodrick came aboard this month from Ogletree Deakins Nash Smoak & Stewart PC. In May, the firm added of counsel Gregory Zerzan, who previously served as general counsel for enCore Energy Group, and of counsel Liz Drumm, who came aboard from Gordon Rees Scully Mansukhani LLP.

Jonathan Elifson, who had most recently served in the Texas Attorney General's Office, joined the firm in June as of counsel in Dallas, and Alen Samuel came aboard the same month as an associate from Platt Richmond PLLC.

–Additional reporting by Rose Krebs. Editing by Nicole Bleier.

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