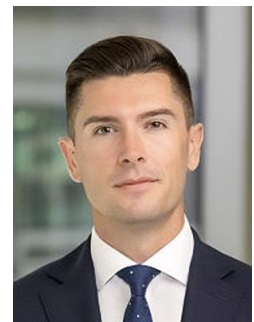


Petroleum Institute Adviser Joins Bracewell In DC

By **Adrian Cruz**

Law360 (May 1, 2023, 3:35 PM EDT) -- Energy-focused Bracewell LLP said Monday that a policy adviser at the American Petroleum Institute has joined the firm's Washington, D.C., office as a principal in the policy resolution group.

Kyle Spencer joined Bracewell in mid-April after spending nearly four years with API, a 600-plus member trade association of oil and gas companies. He told Law360 Pulse on Monday that he was drawn to the firm because of its strength in the energy field and the people, adding that he made the move back to private practice with a goal of diversifying his knowledge and client portfolio.



Kyle Spencer

"Overall, it was their sterling reputation in D.C. for delivering results to clients especially in the energy space," he said. "Beyond that, once I got to meet the partners and my now-colleagues, I learned that they were part of a very welcoming group of very esteemed professionals I'm excited to both work with and learn from."

At Bracewell, Spencer said that he'll start off mainly doing regulatory and legislative advocacy work with a focus on the energy space. Once he's acclimated to the firm, he expects to expand his work to a broader range of clients and industries.

"Kyle is a great addition to our team, bringing a keen understanding of public policy and regulatory affairs to bear on behalf of our firm's wide array of energy and manufacturing clients," policy resolution co-head Dee Martin said in a statement. "[The policy resolution group] and Bracewell represent companies and associations on the cutting edge of the clean-energy transition, and our clients will benefit from Kyle's experience."

At the API, Spencer worked on comment writing, coalition development and advocacy campaigns. Some of the more high-profile work involved the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

"There's a lot of interests that need to be taken into account when representing a trade association of this size," he said. "It was a great experience and I got to learn a lot. The leadership there gave me some high-profile projects to work on, things the membership really cared about."

Spencer, who graduated from George Mason University's Antonin Scalia Law School, also had a stint as a staff attorney with the Chemical Safety Board, an independent U.S. federal agency charged with

investigating industrial chemical accidents.

April was an active month for Houston-based Bracewell, which also hired Holland & Knight LLP health care partner Carrie Douglas in San Antonio and Dallas-based tax partner Bucky Brannen from Baker Botts LLP.

Bracewell has 350 lawyers in 10 offices, according to the firm.

--Additional reporting by Jaqueline McCool and James Mills. Editing by Alyssa Miller.

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