

Reed Smith Managing Partner Announces Departure for Nonprofit Sector

Alexander "Sandy" Thomas, the managing partner of global law firm Reed Smith, is stepping down from his position to join a nonprofit organization. Thomas, who has served as managing partner for ten years, will depart the firm on March 1 to become the first chief legal officer at Kids in Need of Defense (KIND), an international nonprofit devoted to protecting migrant children.

During his tenure as managing partner, Thomas guided Reed Smith to a revenue of over \$1.4 billion in 2021 and profits per equity partner of more than \$1.7 million. The firm also recorded its highest annual revenue in history in 2022, although the specific amount was not disclosed. Under Thomas' leadership, the firm opened offices in cities including Dallas, Austin, Miami, Frankfurt, Brussels, and Orange County, California.

In a statement, Thomas reflected on his tenure as managing partner. He said, "It has been a privilege to lead Reed Smith's global team, a group of exceptionally talented lawyers and professional staff. I am proud of our accomplishments, including our inclusive culture and reputation for outstanding client service."

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Thomas became aware of KIND through the firm's pro bono representation of the organization, founded in 2008 by Microsoft Corp. and actress Angelina Jolie. KIND has assisted over 30,000 children needing legal counsel and support, and Reed Smith has provided pro bono support to KIND for the past decade. Reflecting on his new role, Thomas said, "I am honored to serve KIND as it seeks to change the lives of children with the greatest needs."

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Casey Ryan, who currently serves as the firm's global head of legal personnel, will succeed Thomas as managing partner. She will hold the position through Thomas' term, with the next election scheduled for 2025.

REFERENCES:

Reed Smith Managing Partner Stepping Down for Nonprofit Work

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