

NEW VOICES UNDER 30

Theresa Smith

Associate,
Proskauer



Theresa Smith has been on the forefront of changes in the industry, from legalized sports betting to new franchises in cities such as Seattle, Nashville and Las Vegas to a new NFL team owner in Denver.

AGE: 29

BORN: London

EDUCATION: Dartmouth College, B.A., history/government; Harvard Law School, J.D.

Getting to know Theresa

- **YEAR'S GREATEST CHALLENGE:** Balancing my career with that of my fiancé's (who is a fighter pilot with the U.S. Air Force), since we often have conflicting work commitments in different parts of the world. This year, after learning that he will be stationed in England for a couple years, we moved to London from the East Coast. Although this was overall a positive change ... it was challenging to navigate the logistics of a transatlantic move.
- **MY INSPIRATION:** My pro bono clients, who are mostly immigrants looking for safe refuge/asylum. I have had the privilege of working with incredibly resilient individuals — often children — who have experienced some of the worst trauma imaginable and yet are able to keep pursuing their dreams with a smile on their faces.

In the industry

- **MOST EXCITING ASPECT OF SPORTS BUSINESS:** Witnessing the development of new sports communities. Whether via a league expansion to a new city, the introduction of an innovative sports technology, or the rise of women's sports, the impact sports can have on a community never fails to amaze me in the way it brings people together and creates socioeconomic growth.
- **HOW MY GENERATION IS CHANGING THE SPORTS INDUSTRY:** My generation is constantly evolving the way leagues and teams interact with their fans, whether via fan tokens, sports betting or new streaming platforms.
- **IN 10 YEARS, I HOPE TO BE ... :** In a role that enables me to (1) advance the reach and popularity of women's sports and (2) create opportunities for women to break glass ceilings in the sports industry.