



# LATERAL ONBOARDING CHECKLISTS

(Name and Title of Lateral)

## Pre-Arrival Interview – Lateral

### **Transition Lead**

Explain role as point person. Introduce others.

### **Office Administrator**

Do you have anything for us to move?

Furniture

Client files / boxes

Other personal belongings

Name of current office/facilities contact

Can you give me a feel for how closely you work with an assistant?

(how heavily does he/she rely on LAA support?; tasks generally want LAA to do or not do; will he/she need someone highly trained on file opening in first days or weeks?)

### **Information Technology**

Let's talk about your IT preferences:

Laptop with docking station or Desktop?

One or Two monitors?

Firm Blackberry, Firm Samsung, or bring your own device?

- Firm device: Would you like to port your current cell phone over to the firm?
- Personal device: explain GOOD and reimbursement of \$25/month
- Convey standard e-mail format to lateral.

Do you have electronic files to transfer?

Do you have contacts and a calendar to transfer?

Who is the point of contact for IT at your current firm?

Do you have a docket to transfer?

Do you have special IT programs or software that you use regularly?

What is your experience with the following firm systems, so that we may prioritize training?

- WorkSite document management
- Aderant Time Entry
- Cisco telephone
- Webex

### **Marketing / Communications / Business Development**

Discuss media relations, including press release and announcement schedule.

What is your availability for a media relations call?

Request contact list.

Discuss immediate client needs.

Explain what to expect during orientation meeting with BD Manager.

### **Client Intake**

Are you bringing over active matters?

How many?

Discuss the importance of release letters – needed to transfer files, import electronic files, and import e-mails.

## **Transition Lead**

Discuss business cards: middle initial? Nickname? Cell phone? Admitted in home jurisdiction?

Are there any calendar conflicts your first few weeks that we should work around when drafting an orientation schedule?

Is there anyone in particular you want to spend 10 minutes with on your first day/week?

Schedule meetings with:

Overall: What is your number one priority during this transition?

(ex. Open active files, training, meeting people, press/reaching out to contacts, etc.?)

Closing: I will be your transition lead throughout the process. Please use me as a go-to person for any question or needs, and I will help connect you.

## **Pre-Arrival Interview – Practice Group Head**

### **Transition Lead**

Do you have any office/location preferences?

Is there anyone in particular you would like us to line up for lunch on his/her first day?

Are there any associates you would like us to introduce him/her to for work?

Brief practice group head on checklist and best practices.

## **Arrival Checklists**

### **Recruiting Checklist**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Complete conflicts checks
- \_\_\_\_\_ Receive copy of signed offer letter
- \_\_\_\_\_ Verify bar admissions
- \_\_\_\_\_ Begin background check
- \_\_\_\_\_ Assign phone number
- \_\_\_\_\_ Send arrival notice
- \_\_\_\_\_ Send resume and bio to Professional Development and Marketing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Send LPQ clients list and prospects to Professional Development and Marketing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Send business plan to Professional Development and Marketing (if applicable)

### **Professional Development Checklist**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Give heads up on arrival to senior staff as soon as possible
- \_\_\_\_\_ Send welcome to the firm / transition e-mail to lateral
- \_\_\_\_\_ Conduct Pre-arrival interview
- \_\_\_\_\_ Order business cards and notepaper
- \_\_\_\_\_ Send lateral new contact information
- \_\_\_\_\_ Send HR forms and Benefits Packet to lateral
- \_\_\_\_\_ Create and circulate orientation schedule
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Systems training
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting with ethics chair / conflicts
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting with client intake manager (file opening procedures)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting with billing manager
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting to discuss firm structure, key policies, evaluations
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Benefits overview
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting with library representative
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting with marketing / business development
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting with practice technologies (if applicable)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Meeting with docketing manager (if applicable)

- \_\_\_\_\_ Arrange lunch for first day. (Come prepared with top 3 things they wish they had known day 1)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Create welcome packet  
(overview of firm practice areas; org charts; firm initiatives; top 50 clients in firm/division/practice group; face book/contact list for practice group; client service guidelines, important firm policies)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Send reminder e-mail for first day
- \_\_\_\_\_ Conduct office walk-thru (day before)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Send welcome e-mail to all firm personnel
- \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail bio to alumni of the lateral's law school
- \_\_\_\_\_ Update PLI roster
- \_\_\_\_\_ Schedule follow up check-ins at 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, 9 months, 12 months

### **Marketing / Business Development Checklist**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Obtain current firm bio (incl. publications, events, rankings, awards)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Download LinkedIn profile
- \_\_\_\_\_ Conduct a news search on lateral
- \_\_\_\_\_ If litigator, run a litigation profile
- \_\_\_\_\_ Analysis of geographic/practice differences between current firm and our firm
- \_\_\_\_\_ Conduct pre-arrival interview
- \_\_\_\_\_ Schedule PR call
- \_\_\_\_\_ Obtain/import contacts for media relations, including announcement
- \_\_\_\_\_ Draft press release
- \_\_\_\_\_ Draft bio
- \_\_\_\_\_ Draft external electronic announcement
- \_\_\_\_\_ Draft Talking Points for lateral to use re: "Firm Fast Facts"
- \_\_\_\_\_ Schedule photographer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Send professional photo to IT for firm directory
- \_\_\_\_\_ Update Martindale-Hubbell
- \_\_\_\_\_ BD representative meets lateral within first two weeks

### **Office Administrator / Facilities Checklist**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Assign office number
- \_\_\_\_\_ Schedule courier/mover
- \_\_\_\_\_ Assign LAA (see pre-arrival interview on LAA needs)
- \_\_\_\_\_ Update EMTA
- \_\_\_\_\_ Clean/prepare office
- \_\_\_\_\_ Set new chair and mat in place
- \_\_\_\_\_ Set office supplies in place
- \_\_\_\_\_ Install nameplate
- \_\_\_\_\_ Assign file cabinets and send to LAA
- \_\_\_\_\_ Create badge
- \_\_\_\_\_ Office Administrator introduces self

### **IT Checklist**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Conduct pre-arrival interview
- \_\_\_\_\_ Create network set up, including remote access and PVN
- \_\_\_\_\_ Issue conference call bridge numbers
- \_\_\_\_\_ Prepare mobile device or e-mail lateral if BYOD
- \_\_\_\_\_ Install phone and computer
- \_\_\_\_\_ Import electronic files
- \_\_\_\_\_ Import contacts, calendar, e-mail

### **Practice Group Leader Checklist**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Announce lateral's acceptance and encourage partners to reach out before arrival.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Schedule meeting with lateral
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Give high level overview of firm's strategic plan.
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Talk about firm's top clients
- \_\_\_\_\_ Ask LAA to set follow up reminders at 1 week, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Are others working with laterals clients? / vice versa
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Are you getting involved in any firm activities or committees?

### **Lateral Checklist**

- \_\_\_\_\_ Create distribution list for announcement; give to PR/communications team
- \_\_\_\_\_ Create a voicemail greeting
- \_\_\_\_\_ Meet with new LAA to discuss preferences for phone, mail, and managing calendar and e-mail
- \_\_\_\_\_ Change address of record at the local and state Bar Associations and prof. organizations
- \_\_\_\_\_ Compile travel profile information (rewards numbers, preferences) for LAA
- \_\_\_\_\_ Update LinkedIn
- \_\_\_\_\_ Reach out to suggested partners to meet / firm leaders
- \_\_\_\_\_ Read Governance Manual
- \_\_\_\_\_ Enroll in Benefits within 30 days
- \_\_\_\_\_ Create a business plan
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Meet with Business Development Manager regarding business plan
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Share final business plan with Practice Group Head
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Ask LAA to set calendar reminders for business plan follow ups