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Kline & Specter Grabs Kolsby Gordon Name Partner

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Of the Legal staff

Trial attorneys Nadeem Bezar and Emily Marks have left Kolsby, Gordon, Robin, Shore & Bezar and are headed to Kline & Specter.

Bezar, who worked at Kolsby Gordon for 25 years, said the move will allow for a more national platform for their work representing children who were victims of abuse. Kline & Specter announced the hires Tuesday.

Bezar said he and Marks had an understanding with Kolsby Gordon that each attorney would be taking their entire practice to Kline & Specter. He said they are currently representing about 35 children.

That will leave Kolsby Gordon with no attorneys working specifically on child abuse and human trafficking matters, and it will no longer be an area of focus for the firm, Kolsby Gordon managing partner Mitchell J. Shore said.

Bezar said the separation from his former firm was amicable and Shore agreed, saying he and Bezar remain friends.

"He has an opportunity that was truly unique to him for the practice

he is -developing and he thought that was the best thing for him," Shore said. "I wish him the best."

Over the years, Bezar's practice has become focused on representing children who were abused in alternative care settings, such as foster care, and children who are victims of human trafficking, he said. The practice began with just a few victims, he said, and he gradually chose to focus more of his time on those matters.

"Some of those children we've gotten recovery for return as young adults who are going to college," Bezar said. "I like to think that I contributed to that a little bit."

According to Kline & Specter, Bezar has won five verdicts of \$1 million or more, and a number of settlements in the millions of dollars.

In October, for example, two brothers Bezar represented reached a \$1.35 million settlement with a foster care agency in the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. The boys alleged that they were abused in a foster home where the agency placed them without properly vetting the foster parents.

Marks has worked with Bezar on many of these cases in the past five

to six years, Bezar said, also focusing her practice on representing child victims.

Bezar approached Kline & Specter about joining the firm, he said, and the move came together quickly over the course of a month. He said Kline & Specter was one of a few "nationally impactful" plaintiffs' firms that would provide the opportunity to expand his practice past the regional focus.

"By broadcasting it both locally and -nationally I think there's an opportunity here to do real good," Bezar said. "The resources they have here are phenomenal."

He noted that Tom Kline and Shanin Specter, along with other attorneys at the firm, have experience working on similar matters. In a statement, Kline and Specter said Bezar and Marks are "superb attorneys."