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Fennemore Craig Grows In Denver With Construction Firm

By **Rachel Rippetoe**

Law360 (July 22, 2025, 4:12 PM EDT) -- Growing mid-law firm Fennemore Craig PC announced Tuesday that it will combine with an eight-attorney Denver-based construction boutique, building on the firm's accelerated growth in the Rocky Mountain region.

Galvanize Law, founded and run by partners M. Kate Strauss and January Allen in 2020, will combine with Fennemore on Oct. 1, firm leaders confirmed to Law360 Pulse on Tuesday. The announcement comes a year after Fennemore brought on roughly 80 lawyers and legal professionals to its Denver office from Denver-based business firm Moye White.

Fennemore CEO James Goodnow said that the firm's strategic growth committee had been eyeing expanding its construction law practice in Denver in particular, seeing it as a sector of the economy that would have significant growth and client demands in the coming years.

"If you're betting on whether or not construction law is going to grow or not, I think it's a very safe bet to say that it will," Goodnow told Law360 Pulse. "And when construction came up as a topic, one of our lawyers actually came to us and said, 'Hey, I know a really dynamic, smart entrepreneurial team.' Our firm facilitated the introduction and it was a hit right out of the gates."

Strauss told Law360 Pulse that the small firm hadn't been looking to make a change like this, and she and Allen are "very, very proud of the firm we've built over the last five years." But when Fennemore began reaching out, she said it became clear that it was a good culture fit.

"Fennemore is dedicated to being forward thinking about what the practice of law is and how it's evolving, and how we can continue to serve clients the most efficiently and effectively," Strauss said. "So seeing that writ large in a firm like Fennemore, we were able to see what we hadn't seen before, how moving our smaller firm and the culture we had into Fennemore could allow us to serve so many more clients and also advance the interests of our attorneys and our team in a way that we wouldn't be able to do staying at this smaller stage."

The full team at Galvanize will move over to Fennemore's Denver office, Strauss and Allen said, including two paralegals and a host of legal administrative workers.

Goodnow said that absorbing Galvanize is a part of the firm's broader growth strategy to position themselves as "a Western law firm, a dominant one."

"You can't play that game without having a strong presence in Denver," he said. "So for us, the broader move in the Colorado region is to make sure we're getting a cross-section of practices where we can be a full service business firm and meet all the needs that growing businesses and established businesses have, and part of that is construction law."

Allen said that in addition to the culture fit, she and Strauss are excited about Fennemore's



M. Kate Strauss



January Allen

investment in AI and what those tools will provide. The firm in October **launched an AI initiative** called Project Blue Wave, bolstered by the firm's combining with Lucent Law, a boutique firm out of Spokane, Washington, which had already been using AI and automation to deliver flat-rate service offerings to clients.

While the growing firm has also been making lateral hires, Goodnow said that when it can, the firm likes to absorb fully formed teams of lawyers like Galvenize, or Lucent or Moye White.

"If the stars align and you find the right fit, bringing over an entire group is a fantastic way to go, because you have people who know each other's work styles," he said. "They have an established client base. They have great chemistry."

--Additional reporting by Emma Cueto. Editing by Alyssa Miller.

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