

PROFILE: STEPHEN MALTBY

New York Partner, Gibney, Anthony and Flaherty LLP's

To suggest these are interesting times in US immigration law would be a profound understatement.

Gibney, Anthony and Flaherty LLP's New York Citybased Partner, Stephen Maltby, is among the many trying to anticipate and eventually interpret the seemingly daily policy changes emanating from Washington, DC. He and his law firm are certainly professionally invested, but personally as well.

Stephen explains, "Like me, many of my colleagues are immigrants to the US and bring to the table not only their amazing and creative legal skills but also a commitment to support the immigration ideals on which our nation's immigration history and promise are founded."

Having enjoyed his entire legal career at Gibney, Stephen Maltby's sense of perspective developed over decades of practice. The legal framework he works within dates to the early 1950s, but the pace of change picked up considerably in 2017.



As Stephen puts it, "The practice of US employmentbased immigration law poses numerous challenges that emanate from an aging law that had its birth in 1952. While the antiquity of the law is desperately in need of modernisation, the challenges within the practice have been accentuated in the last two years with the imposition of policies by the administration that promote the 'Hire American/ Buy American" executive order of April 18, 2017". While Stephen's clients benefit from his considerable legal expertise, he invests significant time in helping them help themselves. Education and awareness are paramount.

Stephen observes, "The last few years have witnessed a dramatic shift in the approach to and implementation of US immigration policy. The rise in requests for evidence of employer petitions that have routinely been approved in the past has been significant. This has provided us new opportunities to guide our clients through the uncertainties of retaining foreign talent and to develop strategies to minimise the impact of these policy changes on workforce planning. Much of our work is focused on education and ensuring that the immigration programs of our clients are updated to reflect the new immigration climate."

Maltby himself is 'foreign talent' of a sort, a dual British-American citizen with impressive academic achievements in both countries. To this day, he's an advocate for and supporter of transatlantic education, specifically for the next generation. This is where Stephen and the ACS International Schools intersect. Stephen explains, "For 10 years, I have been honoured to serve as the Chairman of the British American Business Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) organisation that provides scholarships for transatlantic educational purposes. In particular, each year the Foundation funds the programme expenses of four highly deserving students from the 11th Grade in local New York public schools to have a life changing experience within the ACS British Studies Summer Programme (BSSP)."

To learn more about BSSP, please visit the programme's website <u>HERE</u>.



Stephen's commitment to BSSP is personal as well.

"As someone who has been so fortunate to have received a wonderful education at Magdalen College, Oxford and then at the University of Virginia School of Law, it's important to me to continue to contribute, even in a small way, to the education of students whose opportunities are restricted due to economic and social considerations. As a citizen of the UK and the US, I am also keen to enhance the UK/US special relationship with the educational opportunities provided within the BSSP program," Stephen concludes.

When he's not ably serving his immigration law clients and supporting highly deserving and academically able high-school age students by means of the British-American Business Foundation and the ACS British Studies Summer Programme, Stephen invests himself in his family and his enchanted garden at his home in Westchester County, New York. All the while taking just a few precious minutes to enjoy English Premier League football (soccer) matches when he can. Although he's never mentioned which EPL club he supports?

That can sometimes be an issue far more contentious than immigration law.