SPIBA Executive Committee Elections Karina Chichkanova

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DENTONS

Dear SPIBA members,

It is a great honor and responsibility for me to stand for re-election (for the fifth time!) to the SPIBA Executive Committee. I started working with SPIBA in its hardest times. Over the past eight years I and a team of like-minded people have made considerable efforts and contributed our personal experience to make this organization an important and sought-after platform for the city's business community.

I have been working in Dentons' St. Petersburg office for 25 years (the Firm was known as Salans until 2013). While working for Dentons, I have gained extensive experience in general corporate and commercial law, real estate and construction law, and infrastructure issues. I am an advisor to leading Russian and international corporate clients with regard to corporate, civil and commercial law, real estate and construction, infrastructure, foreign investment, real estate mergers and acquisitions, and acquiring property rights and leasing properties. I also negotiate and draft joint investment agreements and agreements for the implementation of new and existing construction/reconstruction projects for multifunctional shopping centers, office buildings, hotels, industrial facilities and housing complexes. I also structure real estate deals.

I have led a team of lawyers in a number of international investment projects implemented in Russia, including strategic investment projects in St. Petersburg and the Northwest Region, as well as PPP projects. I have authored numerous articles and presentations on PPP, real estate, construction, privatization and investment.

In 2018, at the annual *Delovoy Peterburg* newspaper awards ceremony I was named one of the most influential women in St. Petersburg.

SPIBA is a dynamically developing business organization. My colleagues and I on the Executive Committee are currently discussing a number of new smart initiatives. I believe that my experience working with the most innovative law firm (according to the BTI Legal Innovation and Technology Outlook 2019 ranking) will help me to make SPIBA even more interesting and innovative!

As a member of the SPIBA Executive Committee, I envision my main tasks in 2019-2020 to be:

- Organizing SPIBA's work to best realize the association's potential (the potential of SPIBA's committees) and to turn SPIBA into the leading innovation platform in the Northwest for business to engage in dialogue with the government and business partners.
- Using my expertise as a practicing lawyer and manager to identify SPIBA's development priorities and make the association generally more effective.
- Assisting the co-chairs of other committees in engaging with SPIBA members and with each other in

identifying event topics; Coordinating and overseeing the work of SPIBA's committees.

- Identifying real problems for business, discussing issues that arise in the activities of SPIBA member companies and setting out the exact steps to resolve them. In particular, I believe we should focus on discussing the specific experience of various companies, and look into a case study in order to determine ways to resolve problems.
- Establishing dialogue directly between members of the business community. As I see it, another key task of SPIBA is the growth of networking and attracting new companies and business areas to participate in dialogue. In this regard, it appears that SPIBA should become an effective platform to search for partners and implement joint business projects of SPIBA member companies.
- Establishing dialogue between business and government. Under the current conditions of rapidly changing legislation, one of the key tasks of the SPIBA Executive Committee in my view is arranging dialogue between business and government. I believe that the Committee's role also includes making this dialogue regular and effective.

About Dentons

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* The American Lawyer 2017 – Ranking of 100 international law firms by number of lawyers (Global 100).