

LAWYER OF THE YEAR  
SPONSORED BY 39 ESSEX CHAMBERS

# Rosemary Martin

Vodafone

A role model for the in-house community

2014 saw Vodafone's general counsel and company secretary at the peak of her powers. Martin manages the equivalent of a sizeable law firm in its own right – Vodafone's legal team houses 350 lawyers in 26 countries worldwide and across legal, compliance and corporate secretariat. Recently she has overseen huge commercial transformation within the business, including the disposal of a 45% stake in Verizon Wireless for \$130bn to Verizon, as well as the €7.2bn acquisition of Grupo Corporativo Ono in Spain. General counsel on our judging panel were unanimous in their praise of a lawyer that many regard as the best in the business. Martin has been single-handedly pioneering the delivery of an in-house legal service to Vodafone that is as cost-effective, flexible and supportive as any.

In our latest *GC Power List 2015: The Team Elite*, James Conyers, GC at BSKyB, says: 'I've heard about the sort of things Rosemary Martin is trying to achieve at Vodafone and I always follow what they are up to with interest – in particular the approach to diversity and also the thoughtful approach to managing and developing the internal team.'

Not only has Martin made a significant contribution to her own business, she is a standout example and role model for the in-house legal industry and wider profession generally.

## HIGHLY COMMENDED

### BOB DELL

Latham & Watkins

Bob Dell is unquestionably the figurehead of a success story that has run largely unfettered since the 1990s establishing what is now, based on 2014 revenues, the largest firm in the world. Dell retired from a 20-year stint as chair and managing partner at the end of 2014. During that time, revenues and partner profits went from \$260m and \$550,000 in 1994 to \$2.61bn and \$2.9m. Dell leaves behind a powerful legacy as arguably the outstanding US law firm leader of his generation.

### SIR NIGEL KNOWLES

DLA Piper

Having stepped down from his role as co-chief executive of DLA Piper at the turn of the year, Sir Nigel Knowles had completed nearly 20 years at the helm of what was a Yorkshire-bred upstart that became the largest law firm by revenue in 2013, with 4,000



Vodafone's group risk and compliance director Jacqueline Barrett collects the award, alongside Michael Kaplan of 39 Essex Chambers

lawyers and \$2.5bn turnover. Throughout this period, Knowles has been unafraid to take on the international elite with his own brand of honesty and aggression and has more often than not earned praise from those he has challenged in the past, which is why he was singled out by senior figures as an outstanding individual in our recent 25-year review.

### ANGUS McBRIDE

Kingsley Napley

McBride, a partner at Kingsley Napley, had overall responsibility for the defence of Rebekah Brooks during her high-profile trial at the Old Bailey in 2014. Personal testimony came from Brooks herself, who was acquitted of all charges relating to alleged phone hacking, corruption and perverting the course of justice. His work was singled out as outstanding in a trial which placed him, and his team, under huge pressure both legally and strategically, facing intense public and political scrutiny.

*Congratulations to  
Rosemary Martin of Vodafone,  
winner of 'Lawyer of the Year 2015'*



International  
Arbitration Chambers  
of the Year 2014  
Legal 500



Environment &  
Planning Chambers  
of the Year 2014  
Chambers UK

