

SNELL & WILMER EXPANDS ENVIRONMENTAL AND COMMERCIAL LITIGATION PRACTICES IN PHOENIX WITH THE ADDITION OF THREE ATTORNEYS

PHOENIX (April 22, 2011) – Snell & Wilmer announced today the addition of three attorneys to the Phoenix office. Cynthia M. Chandley has joined as partner and Christopher W. Payne joined as associate in the Environmental Group. Robert J. Pohlman joined of counsel in the Commercial Litigation Group.

“The wide-ranging experience of Cynthia, Robert and Christopher makes them a great fit for our team,” said Snell & Wilmer partner Bill Staudenmaier. “Their addition represents our firm’s commitment to offer top tier legal services to the southwest region.”

- Cynthia Chandley practices in the areas of water, mining, natural resources, energy and environmental law. She has represented large private claimants in Arizona’s General Stream Adjudications as well as in the administration of federal water decrees, in the negotiation and litigation of water rights, development of water supply strategies and analysis of water sources, purchase and sale of real estate, implementation of Indian water rights settlements, development of water exchange strategies, evaluation and settlement of Natural Resource Damages, evaluation of the effects of interstate decrees and compliance with federal legislation. She also performs due diligence investigations for mining, land and water rights acquisitions including environmental permitting and related issues, permitting for natural resource development, negotiate land exchanges, negotiation with private entities and governmental agencies of environmental mitigation and development of remediation projects. Her understanding of the complex competing demands for water and natural resources enable her to successfully negotiate, settle and litigate conflicts throughout the Western Region. Chandley is a registered lobbyist and provides legislative counsel to major corporations on water issues. She earned her J.D. from Franklin Pierce Law Center, and her B.A. from Mansfield University.
- Robert Pohlman is a highly accomplished trial lawyer who has been practicing for over 30 years and has served as lead counsel on more than 70 jury trials. He has handled antitrust, bankruptcy, banking, business torts, construction, securities, contract, professional liability, employment, natural resources, water, energy, insurance coverage and toxic tort cases with special emphasis on complex commercial, technology and business litigation. Over the course of his career, he has appeared and argued before the United States Supreme Court, conducted oral argument before the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (including en banc proceedings), and led cases to successful jury verdict and judgment in Arizona, and Colorado, and United States Federal District courts. Pohlman participated in one of the first Markman hearings scheduled in the United States District Court for the District of Arizona and was named Summation (litigation support software) litigator of the month in 1997. In addition to his trial experience, Pohlman is experienced in alternative dispute resolution and reaching settlements for clients. He also has experience as a mediator and an arbitrator. He was selected as an attorney team member for the Arizona Commission on Judicial Performance Review. Upon graduation from law school at the University of Chicago, Pohlman served for five years as an Officer in the United States Air Force Judge Advocate General’s Department, spending two years overseas in Izmir, Turkey.

- Christopher Payne's practice is concentrated in water, mining, natural resources and environmental law. His water law practice involves representation of clients in general stream adjudications, participation in negotiations for settlement of Tribal water right claims and negotiation of contracts and leases for sale and transfer of water rights. Payne has also represented clients in all aspects of commercial litigation practice with emphasis in construction, administrative and real estate law. Before law school, Payne was a water resources engineer for one of the largest civil engineering firms in the nation. His work experience as an engineer included preparing environmental assessments and environmental impact statements, water supply and development studies, floodplain delineation, and landfill design. Payne earned his J.D. from the University of Arizona and his B.S.C.E. from Arizona State University.

About Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.

Founded in 1938, Snell & Wilmer is a full-service business law firm with more than 400 attorneys practicing in nine locations throughout the western United States and in Mexico, including Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona; Los Angeles and Orange County, California; Denver, Colorado; Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada; Salt Lake City, Utah; and Los Cabos, Mexico. The firm represents clients ranging from large, publicly traded corporations to small businesses, individuals and entrepreneurs. For more information, visit www.swlaw.com.

###