

SNELL & WILMER NAMES 11 NEW PARTNERS

PHOENIX (January 03, 2012) – Snell & Wilmer is pleased to announce the election of 11 new partners. The promotions went into effect on January 1, 2012.

The new Snell & Wilmer partners are:

- **Damon Ashcraft**, Intellectual Property. Based in Phoenix, Ashcraft assists clients in identifying, protecting and maximizing the value of their intellectual property. In that regard, he regularly conducts intellectual property audits, prepares patent and trademark applications, and prepares intellectual property and software license agreements. He also handles intellectual property matters for various business deals including mergers and acquisitions. He is an active member of the International Trademark Association (INTA) and serves on INTA's Internet Committee. Ashcraft earned his J.D. from the University of Dayton School of Law.
- **Ken Ashton**, Business & Finance. Based in Salt Lake City, Ashton advises start-up, emerging growth and mature companies with organization entity formation and governance, and in a variety of business transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, finance arrangements and other commercial transactions. He also represents private equity funds, strategic buyers and commercial and private lenders. Ashton earned his J.D. from the University of Texas where he was a member for both the *Texas International Law Journal* and the *International Law Society*.
- **Matthew Donovan**, Tax, Employee Benefits & Estate Planning. Based in Phoenix, Donovan's practice is concentrated in tax, trust and estate matters with an emphasis in estate planning, trust and probate administration, and estate and gift taxation. He provides advice on advanced estate planning techniques, including grantor-retained annuity trusts, family partnerships, limited liability companies, charitable trusts, defective grantor trusts and insurance planning. Donovan earned his J.D. from the University of California Hastings College of the Law where he received the American Jurisprudence Award for outstanding achievement in Corporate Law.
- **Chad Fears**, Commercial Litigation. Based in Las Vegas, Fears' practice is concentrated in commercial and complex civil litigation. His commercial litigation experience includes contract disputes, financial services, bad faith insurance litigation, class-action defense and business torts. Additionally, Fears' practice includes the defense of pharmaceutical companies. He has extensive experience in federal court, especially in devising litigation strategies regarding removal, standing and jurisdiction. He earned his J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Brigham Young University, J. Reuben Clark Law School where he graduated Order of the Coif. Fears was also Lead Article Editor for the *Brigham Young University Law Review*.
- **Brendan Ford**, Product Liability Litigation. Based in Orange County, Ford's practice is focused in products liability litigation, class actions and health care litigation. He regularly represents manufacturers of pharmaceuticals, medical devices and automobiles in catastrophic personal injury and wrongful death lawsuits. Ford represents businesses in class actions, including consumer fraud class actions under California's Unfair Competition Law and False Advertising Law. He also represents physicians, clinics and managed care providers in medical malpractice,

negligence and related claims. Ford has extensive experience with complex litigation in both state and federal courts, including Judicial Council Coordinated Proceedings, multi-party litigation subject to Case Management Orders and Multi-District Litigation. He earned his J.D. from the University of San Diego School of Law where he graduated Order of the Barristers.

- **Carlene Lowry**, Tax, Employee Benefits & Estate Planning. Based in Phoenix, Lowry is a transactional attorney with a focus in tax. Her practice involves advising partnership, limited liability company, corporate and tax-exempt organization clients regarding formation, structuring and operational issues. Lowry also advises clients with respect to foreign financial accounts and FBAR filing requirements. In addition, she assists clients with employment tax issues (including Trust Fund Recovery Penalty, independent contractor/employee issues and accountable plans), and with debt relief and collections representation. Lowry earned her LL.M. (Taxation) from New York University and her J.D. from the University of Arizona where she was an Executive Note Editor for *Arizona Law Review*.
- **Todd Lundell**, Appellate Litigation. Based in Orange County, Lundell is a Certified Specialist in Appellate Law by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization. He has assisted clients on various appeals in the United States Court of Appeals for the Second, Eighth, Ninth, and Eleventh Circuits, and in state appellate courts in California, New York, Oregon and West Virginia. Lundell has also prepared several certiorari petitions and merits briefs in the U.S. Supreme Court. He has considerable experience drafting merits briefs, amicus briefs, motions to stay and/or vacate judgment, petitions for review and petitions for writ of mandamus. Lundell earned his J.D. with honors, from Columbia University School of Law where he was senior editor for the *Columbia Law Review*.
- **Stewart Peay**, Commercial Litigation. Based in Salt Lake City, Peay's practice is focused in general commercial litigation, financial services litigation, construction litigation, civil RICO defense and products liability defense. Peay earned his J.D., *cum laude*, from J. Reuben Clark Law School, Brigham Young University where he was associate editor of the *Journal of Public Law* and president of the Federalist Society.
- **Angela Perez**, Business & Finance. Based in Phoenix, Perez's practice is concentrated in business and finance, focusing on venture capital and private equity, mergers and acquisitions, regulatory compliance and commercial agreements. Her experience includes representation of clients in various industries, including bioscience, medical research, health care, OTC drugs and pharmaceuticals and product manufacturing. Perez's experience also includes representation of clients at various stages of the company life cycle, from start-up to exit. She earned her J.D. from the University of Arizona College of Law.
- **Swen Prior**, Labor & Employment. Based in Las Vegas, Prior's focus is primarily in labor and employment law, providing litigation defense and extensive preventative counseling to clients in all areas of his practice. Prior advises employers in the development of employment contracts, policies and practices, including employee handbooks, employment applications, sexual harassment policies and investigations, employee/supervisory training, accommodating disabled employees, non-competition and intellectual property ownership agreements and severance agreements. He has spoken and written on employment law issues for various business, legal and professional groups. Prior earned his J.D. from George Mason University School of Law.
- **Jay Schuttert**, Product Liability Litigation. Based in Las Vegas, Schuttert's practice is concentrated in products liability defense, particularly automotive, pharmaceutical, medical device and consumer/industrial products. His practice also includes defense of catastrophic tort

cases and commercial litigation matters and he has tried multiple product liability cases at the federal and state level. Schuttert earned his J.D., *cum laude*, from Syracuse University College of Law where he was associate editor for the *Syracuse Law and Technology Journal*. Schuttert was also a member of the Justinian Honorary Law Society.

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; Salt Lake City, Utah; Los Angeles and Orange County, California; Denver, Colorado; Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada; and Los Cabos, Mexico. The firm represents clients ranging from large, publicly traded corporations to small businesses, individuals and entrepreneurs. For more information, visit <http://www.swlaw.com>.

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