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**PARTNER CRAIG MCPIKE APPOINTED CHAIRMAN OF THE CONTRACTING WORKING GROUP FOR ARIZONA GOVERNOR JAN BREWER'S TRANSACTION PRIVILEGE TAX SIMPLIFICATION TASK FORCE**

**PHOENIX (July 30, 2012)** – Snell & Wilmer is pleased to announce that Craig McPike, a tax partner in the Phoenix office, was appointed as Chairman of the Contracting Working Group for Governor Jan Brewer's Transaction Privilege Tax Simplification Task Force (Task Force). The transaction privilege tax is Arizona's version of a gross receipts tax on certain business transactions, similar to the sales tax that other states impose yet different in certain key respects.

The Task Force was established through an Executive Order issued May 11, 2012, the same day Governor Brewer signed into law HB 2815 – a tax-reform package aimed at spurring job creation and economic development in Arizona. The Task Force consists of tax experts, business owners, municipal representatives and others, and has been asked to issue recommendations on how the Arizona transaction privilege tax laws can be made simpler and easier for taxpayer compliance and for taxing authority administration.

There will be three working groups that will assist the Task Force with making recommendations to the Governor. The Contracting Working Group, which McPike will chair, will focus on the classification of the transaction privilege tax that applies to the construction industry. The other groups are the State and Local Standardization Working Group, which will concentrate on standardizing the varying state and local tax laws, and the Online Retail Working Group. All three groups are expected to meet regularly and report their findings to the Task Force.

McPike's law practice includes federal, state and local tax matters, including taxation of for-profit and non-profit business organizations. He focuses in state and local tax matters and tax-exempt organizations. McPike earned his LL.M. in Taxation from the University of Washington School of Law, his J.D. from the University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law, and his B.S. in Business from Indiana 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; Denver, Colorado; Los Angeles and Orange County, California; 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](http://www.swlaw.com).

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