

SNELL & WILMER NAMES FOUR NEW PARTNERS

PHOENIX (January 2, 2013) – Snell & Wilmer is pleased to announce the election of four new partners. The promotions went into effect on January 1, 2013. The new Snell & Wilmer partners are:

- **Mike Gehret**, Commercial Litigation. Gehret, based in the Salt Lake City office, represents commercial and residential developers, ski resorts, contractors, purchasers, lending institutions, landlords, tenants, homeowners associations and political subdivisions in all manner of disputes involving real property. In defending and prosecuting claims, Gehret relies heavily on his experience negotiating and drafting development agreements, leases, real estate purchase contracts, construction contracts and governing documents for common interest communities and condominium hotel projects. He also draws from his background representing creditors who hold secured interests in real property in Chapter 7, 11, and 13 bankruptcy cases and proceedings. Gehret is currently part of multiple litigation teams that are defending the developers of multi-billion dollar condominium hotel projects in state and federal court proceedings, as well as arbitrations. He also represents several lenders in judicial and non-judicial foreclosure actions and deficiency suits involving large multi-parcel commercial and residential developments. Gehret earned his J.D., *cum laude*, from the University of Minnesota Law School.
- **Joe Kroeger**, Labor & Employment. Kroeger's practice is concentrated in labor and employment out of the Tucson office. He represents employers in a variety of areas, including employment discrimination and harassment, wrongful discharge, breach of contract, misappropriation of trade secrets, non-competition/non-solicitation matters, social media, alternative dispute resolution and arbitration agreements, and other related areas. Kroeger is also a member of the firm's Privacy and Data Security group, and has experience in issues related to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, HIPAA, the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act, employee background checks and drug testing, employer protection of intellectual property, e-discovery and other employment-related privacy issues. He has litigation experience in a variety of federal and state judicial and administrative forums. Kroeger has first-chaired cases to verdicts in front of both federal and state juries. He further counsels and advises employers with respect to all of the above areas. Kroeger is a member of the firm's Ethics and Community Involvement Committees. He earned his J.D. from Stanford Law School.
- **Jeff Scudder**, Business & Finance. Scudder, who is based in the Phoenix office, concentrates his practice in business and finance, with a focus on mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance, securities law, SEC reporting and compliance, general contracting and compliance with the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 (including notification filings with the Federal Trade Commission and U.S. Department of Justice). He has also assisted public and private companies in raising capital through securities offerings of various types, including common and preferred stock issuances, debt issuances, PIPE transactions, and equity lines of credit. Scudder earned his J.D., with distinction, from the University of Iowa College of Law.
- **Nicole Skorupka**, Real Estate, Environmental, Energy & Finance. Skorupka is based in the Denver office and concentrates her practice in commercial finance, including asset-based and real estate financing transactions; acquisition and development, construction, mezzanine, and bridge loans and

lines of credit; participations and syndications; loan purchases; loan restructuring, workouts and foreclosures; letters of credit; banking regulation and governance. She earned her J.D. from the University of Denver College of Law where she was admitted to the Order of St. Ives for excellence in academic achievement. In addition, Skorupka received her M.B.A. from the University of Denver Daniels College of Business where she was admitted to the International Honor Society Beta Gamma Sigma, the highest recognition a business student anywhere in the world can receive in a business program accredited by AACSB International.

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.

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