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Robinson+Cole Elects New Partners and Counsel

Am Law 200 law firm elects three lawyers to partnership and elevates eight to counsel

HARTFORD, CT (December 4, 2014) – Robinson+Cole is pleased to announce the election of three new partners and the promotion of eight associates to counsel. The new partners are John P. Casey, Amanda S. Eckhoff, and Andrea Donovan Napp. The new counsel are Megan E. Baroni, Steven J. Boyajian, Brian M. Flaherty, Michael W. Kaufman, Robert G. Rahilly, Rickie M. Sonpal, George W. Watson III, and Brian J. Wheelin. The promotions are effective January 1, 2015.

“It is a pleasure to announce the elevation of so many lawyers within our ranks,” said John B. Lynch Jr., managing partner. “I congratulate these eleven accomplished lawyers from across our firm’s disciplines and offices. They embody the spirit of our firm’s culture, working as part of a community to provide exceptional service and value to our clients while developing a deep knowledge of their respective legal fields.”

New Partners

[John P. Casey](#) (Real Estate + Development, New London) – Mr. Casey concentrates his practice on land use and environmental matters, with particular emphasis on coastal management, development, and permitting, as well as littoral and riparian water rights. Mr. Casey’s practice covers all aspects of planning, zoning, and wetland permits and approvals, as well as litigation related to land use permitting and property rights. He is admitted to practice law in Connecticut and Rhode Island.

[Amanda S. Eckhoff](#) (Finance, Boston) – Ms. Eckhoff serves financial institutions in complex financing transactions. She regularly assists clients with matters ranging from the financing of real estate projects, construction lending, loan participations, and loan workouts to green construction, leasing, condemnation, and obtaining land use and environmental permits and approvals necessary for development and construction. She is admitted to practice law in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

[Andrea Donovan Napp](#) (Business Litigation, Hartford) – Ms. Napp focuses her practice on complex commercial litigation, business torts, and market conduct cases, representing businesses, municipalities, and individuals in various jurisdictions. She also chairs the firm’s Electronic Discovery and Information Governance Practice Team and

has experience in all aspects of e-discovery and data management, including development of record retention policies, litigation readiness planning, creation of defensible collection protocols, and management of large-scale reviews and production. She is admitted to practice law in Connecticut and New York.

New Counsel

[Megan E. Baroni](#) (Environmental + Utilities, Stamford) – Ms. Baroni focuses her practice on environmental litigation; federal and state administrative compliance, including remediation of contaminated properties; and transactional environmental issues. Much of her litigation work focuses on representing private parties in disputes under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act; the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act; and other federal and state environmental laws. She is admitted to practice law in Connecticut and New York.

[Steven J. Boyajian](#) (Business Litigation, Providence) – Mr. Boyajian focuses his practice on bankruptcy and creditors' rights. He represents creditors, creditors' committees, financial institutions, equity holders, and trustees in formal bankruptcy proceedings and in in-court and out-of-court matters. Mr. Boyajian counsels clients on all aspects of receivership proceedings and related litigation and in all stages of bankruptcy. He is admitted to practice law in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

[Brian M. Flaherty](#) (Business Transactions, Boston) – Mr. Flaherty represents privately and publicly held companies in all aspects of corporate and transactional law, including mergers and acquisitions, private equity and venture transactions, debt financings, joint ventures, and general corporate matters. Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Flaherty interned with the Honorable F. Bradford Stillman at the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia and clerked at the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia. He is admitted to practice law in Massachusetts.

[Michael W. Kaufman](#) (Finance, Stamford) – Mr. Kaufman is a member of the firm's Finance Group, where his practice involves representing borrowers and lenders in all aspects of complex secured and unsecured bank and mezzanine financing transactions. Prior to joining Robinson+Cole, he was an associate at Cahill Gordon & Reindel LLP in New York. He is admitted to practice law in Connecticut and New York.

[Robert G. Rahilly](#) (Real Estate + Development, Stamford) – Mr. Rahilly focuses his practice on commercial real estate transactions, including the acquisition, leasing, and sale of real property and real estate financing. He regularly advises clients on acquisitions, sales, and financing of commercial properties throughout the country. In addition, Mr. Rahilly advises landlords and tenants on all aspects of commercial leasing for office, commercial, industrial, and retail space. He is admitted to practice law in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

[Rickie M. Sonpal](#) (Business Transactions, Providence) – Mr. Sonpal handles all aspects of corporate and transactional law, including mergers and acquisitions, private equity and venture capital transactions, financing transactions, and general corporate and contractual matters. He also represents institutional lenders in commercial

lending transactions. He previously practiced law at Friedman Kaplan Seiler & Adelman LLP and Shearman & Sterling LLP and served as a judicial law clerk for the Honorable Peter K. Leisure, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York. He is admitted to practice law in Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island.

[George W. Watson III](#) (Environmental + Utilities, Providence) – Mr. Watson works on environmental, real estate, and land use matters. His practice is focused on siting and permitting large infrastructure projects. He also represents clients engaged in the acquisition, development, and disposition of commercial property and the negotiation of easements and land use restrictions. Mr. Watson is admitted to practice law in Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island.

[Brian J. Wheelin](#) (Business Litigation, Stamford) – Mr. Wheelin focuses his practice on complex commercial litigation, including privacy and cybersecurity matters. He represents both individuals and companies in commercial litigation matters encompassing business torts, contract breaches, and disputes related to employment, real estate, and intellectual property. He has first-chaired cases to verdict as well as argued appeals before the United States Second Circuit and state appellate courts in Connecticut and New York. Mr. Wheelin is admitted to practice law in Connecticut and New York.

About Robinson+Cole

Robinson+Cole is a service mark of Robinson & Cole LLP, an Am Law 200 firm with 200 lawyers in nine offices serving regional, national, and international clients, from start-ups to Fortune 500 companies. Since 1845, Robinson & Cole LLP has expanded to meet the changing needs of clients. The firm represents corporate, governmental, and nonprofit entities, as well as individual clients, in a wide range of matters, including corporate; business and insurance litigation; tax and tax-exempt; finance; public finance; land use, environmental and utilities, and real estate; health law; labor, employment, and benefits; intellectual property and technology; and government relations. For more information, please visit www.rc.com.

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