

It's Official: 12 Litigators from Miller Alfano Join Drinker Biddle's Philadelphia Office

Move Continues Strong Growth of National 300-Lawyer Litigation Practice

PHILADELPHIA – In a move that further enhances its capabilities to serve clients in securities, corporate governance and white collar criminal litigation, Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP today officially welcomes 12 lawyers from Miller Alfano & Raspanti, P.C., to its Philadelphia office.

Prominent litigator Gregory P. Miller, former managing partner of Miller Alfano, joins Drinker Biddle as a partner. Four of Miller's colleagues, Heather C. Giordanella, Maria L.H. Lewis, Gregg W. Mackuse and Stephen G. Stroup, are Counsel to the firm, and seven other Miller Alfano lawyers are now associates. The group first announced its move to Drinker Biddle in September 2007.

"We are thrilled to finally have them under our roof," said Drinker Biddle Chairman Alfred W. Putnam, Jr. "They bring both experience and skill to our national litigation practice, which has been growing significantly over the last few years. They also allow us to offer our clients enhanced capabilities in the areas of securities, corporate governance and white collar criminal litigation, in addition to corporate investigations."

Miller and the other lawyers join several lateral additions to Drinker Biddle in the securities litigation area, most recently Bradley J. Andreozzi, Daniel J. Delaney and Bennett W.

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Lasko from Mayer Brown LLP, partners who moved to Drinker Biddle's Chicago office in October. Also in the past year, the white collar team was bolstered by the addition of former New Jersey Supreme Court Chief Justice and Attorney General Deborah T. Poritz in the firm's Princeton office and former federal prosecutor Barry Gross in the firm's Philadelphia office. In 2006, white-collar defense lawyer Charles S. Leeper joined the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

Drinker Biddle will continue to grow in February 2008 with the addition of 13 lawyers from Connelly Sheehan Harris LLP, an employment litigation boutique in Chicago with a national practice. The firm will have nearly 700 lawyers by the spring, approximately half of them litigators.

"I've known many Drinker Biddle lawyers in my career, and I've always been impressed with their high level of professionalism and integrity, along with their creativity and tenacity," said Miller, who has been practicing law for more than 30 years. "They know how to win and – more importantly – are best at achieving the right result for their clients."

He added that while a large part of his group's practices are national in scope, Drinker Biddle's presence in major legal markets like Chicago, Washington, D.C., New Jersey, New York and San Francisco will allow the group to focus on serving an even wider array of clients nationwide.

In addition to Miller, Giordanella, Lewis, Mackuse and Stroup, the other lawyers joining Drinker Biddle as associates are William L. Carr, Joshua L. Gayl, Richard A. Hunter, A. Kristina Littman, Riley H. Ross III, Billy J. Smith and Nicole B. Stach.

Brief biographies of each lawyer follow:



Gregory P. Miller – Greg, who was the managing partner of Miller Alfano, is joining Drinker Biddle as a partner. He is a former assistant U.S. attorney and chief of the Criminal Division of the Philadelphia U.S. Attorney's Office and has a substantial practice in the areas of white collar criminal defense and securities and accounting litigation.

Greg's securities litigation work has included counseling a Big Four accounting firm engagement partner in an action brought by the Securities & Exchange Commission (SEC) and representing directors and officers who are defendants in securities class actions. He has served as outside counsel to the Philadelphia Stock Exchange and is active in representing defendants in SEC actions involving late trading, market timing and improper management of a hedge fund.

Greg is also known nationally for his role in the Fen-Phen litigation ([In re: Diet Drugs Products Liability Litigation](#)), having performed a variety of functions as the Special Master since his appointment in 1998, including monitoring the progress of discovery in more than 40,000 individual claims. He has frequently been asked to serve as a special master or mediator in federal or state cases, and he is a founding member of the Academy of Court Appointed Masters.

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Greg received his J.D. in 1975 from Case Western Reserve School of Law and a B.A. in 1972 from Mount Union College. He served six years on the Disciplinary Board for the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, chairing its Rules Committee. He is currently the chair of the Pennsylvania Board of Law Examiners.



Heather C. Giordanella – Heather is Counsel to the firm, in the Commercial Litigation Practice Group. In addition to general commercial litigation and Special Master services, she works on cases involving employment and ERISA disputes. She was recently honored as one of two outstanding members of the year by the National Association of Women Lawyers and has been elected to serve as an at-large member of the group's executive board. Heather earned her law degree, *cum laude*, from Temple University Beasley School of Law in 1999 and received her bachelor's degree from Central Connecticut State University in 1995.



Maria L.H. Lewis – Maria is Counsel to the firm on the Labor & Employment Team of the HR Law Practice Group, focusing her practice on employment and commercial disputes. A 1997 Harvard Law School graduate, she began her career as an assistant district attorney in the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office, where she tried hundreds of preliminary hearings and bench trials. Last year, the Philadelphia *Legal Intelligencer* named Maria as one of the women "On the Verge" in the city's legal community. She received her bachelor's degree, *magna cum laude*, in 1994 from the University of Pittsburgh.



Gregg W. Mackuse – A member of the Commercial Litigation Practice Group, Gregg is Counsel to the firm. He focuses his practice on a variety of complex commercial litigation matters, including complex and health care fraud cases and corporate internal investigations. He also has extensive experience in insurance regulatory issues, insolvency proceedings and insurance coverage disputes. Gregg received his J.D., *cum laude*, in 1988 from Villanova University School of Law and his B.A. in 1985 from the University of Pennsylvania.



Stephen G. Stroup – Stephen is Counsel to the firm in the Commercial Litigation Practice Group. He concentrates his practice on defending SEC regulatory investigations and enforcement actions in addition to commercial disputes. He is both a Certified Public Accountant and Certified Fraud Examiner, with prior experience in the accounting and auditing profession. He is currently a national director for the American Association of Attorney-Certified Public Accountants. Stephen received his law degree, *cum laude*, in 1998 from Widener University School of Law and his bachelor's degree in 1989 from Lehigh University.



William L. Carr – William is an associate in the Commercial Litigation Practice Group, focusing on SEC regulatory investigations and enforcement actions. He received his J.D. with honors from Rutgers University School of Law-Camden in 2005, the same year he earned an M.B.A. from Rutgers University School of Business-Camden. He received his B.A. in 1999 from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After law school, William clerked for the Hon. Joseph H. Rodriguez of the U.S. District Court for the District of New Jersey.

Joshua L. Gayl – Joshua is an associate in the Commercial Litigation Practice Group. He received his J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Villanova University School of Law in 2006 and his B.A. from George Washington University in 2001. After law school he clerked for the Hon. Joseph D. O'Keefe, administrative judge of Philadelphia's Court of Common Pleas, Orphan's Court Division.

Richard A. Hunter – Richard is an associate in the Commercial Litigation Practice Group. He earned his law degree in 2007 from Rutgers University School of Law-Camden and his bachelor's degree in 2004 from Howard University. He received the James J. Manderino Award for Trial Advocacy in 2007 from the Philadelphia trial Lawyers' Association.

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A. Kristina Littman – Kristina, an associate in the Commercial Litigation Practice Group, focuses her practice on white collar criminal defense, SEC enforcement action defense and Special Master services. She received his J.D. from Rutgers University School of Law-Camden in 2005, the same year she earned an M.B.A. from Rutgers University School of Business-Camden. She received her B.S. in 2001 from Florida State University. In addition, Kristina spent part of her undergraduate studies at the U.S. Air Force Academy, where she went through combat survival training and basic cadet training, and where she was involved in the Global Engagement Program, which concentrates on international deployment.



Riley H. Ross III – Riley is a associate in the Commercial Litigation Practice Group, where he focuses his practice on white collar criminal defense, criminal and civil health care fraud defense and federal sentencing guidelines. He received his J.D. in 1999 from the University of Virginia School of Law. He earned a bachelor's degree in 1993 from Longwood College and a master's degree in 1995 from Western Kentucky University.



Billy J. Smith – Billy, an associate in the Commercial Litigation Practice Group, focuses on complex commercial disputes, employment matters, government investigations and white collar criminal cases. He received his J.D. in 1999 from Franklin Pierce Law School and his B.A. in 1996 from Temple University.



Nicole B. Stach – Nicole is an associate in the Commercial Litigation Practice Group. She earned her law degree in 2005 from Catholic University of America Columbus School of Law and her bachelor's degree, *summa cum laude*, in 2002 from King's College.

Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP, a national law firm with more than 650 lawyers in 12 offices, concentrates on providing clients with the best possible service in areas such as corporate and securities, commercial litigation, communications litigation, products liability and mass tort litigation, intellectual property, health care, HR law, real estate, corporate restructuring, government and regulatory affairs, environmental, insurance, investment management and private client services. For more information, visit www.drinkerbiddle.com.

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