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Drinker Biddle Names New Partners, Counsel

PHILADELPHIA – Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP has named eight new partners of the firm and appointed four lawyers as counsel.

“The election of new partners and appointment of counsel is one of the most important events in the life of any firm,” said Drinker Biddle Chairman Alfred W. Putnam, Jr. “We are fortunate to have these excellent lawyers, and look forward to our continued efforts to provide our clients with unparalleled service.”

Brief biographies of our new partners follow:

Richard E. Coe focuses his practice on securities and antitrust issues and internal investigations. A member of the Commercial Litigation Practice Group in the firm’s Philadelphia office, Richard has worked on complex commercial disputes in federal and state courts involving a wide range of issues, ranging from consumer class actions to products liability.

Christine M. Kong, a member of the Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation Practice Group in the firm’s New York office, focuses her practice on a range of employee benefit and executive compensation matters for public and private companies and tax-exempt entities. Chris counsels clients on matters relating to qualified and nonqualified retirement plans, executive compensation arrangements, equity-based incentive programs, health and welfare benefits, and benefit issues in corporate transactions.

Andy S. Norin is a member of the Real Estate Practice Group in the firm’s Florham Park office. He concentrates his practice on land development and redevelopment projects, acquisitions and dispositions and leasing across a broad spectrum of property types, including multi-family and mixed used, retail, industrial, office, open space and farmland.

Timothy J. O’Driscoll has a broad range of insurance and commercial litigation experience. A member of the Life Insurance & Annuities Practice Group in the firm’s Philadelphia office, Tim

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handles coverage disputes in state and federal courts across the country, involving property and casualty, life, long-term care, and annuity policies and contracts. His commercial litigation experience includes breach of contract and business tort claims.

Peter J. Sistare focuses his practice on patent law in the mechanical and electrical technologies, including preparation and prosecution of patent applications before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, client counseling, drafting non-infringement and right-to-use opinions and due diligence matters. He is a member of the Intellectual Property Practice Group in the firm's Washington, D.C., office.

Adam J. Thurston, a member of the Commercial Litigation Practice Group in the firm's Los Angeles office, focuses his practice on complex commercial, intellectual property and entertainment litigation and trials. His trial and commercial litigation experience covers a broad spectrum of matters, from business disputes to large-scale class actions, multi-district litigation and international trade, across a variety of industries, including manufacturing, consumer products and technology.

B. Todd Vinson is a member of the Products Liability & Mass Tort Practice Group in the firm's Chicago office. His practice focuses on products liability litigation involving prescription and over-the-counter pharmaceutical products, and medical devices. Todd also has extensive experience representing clients in commercial litigation matters, including consumer class actions, in federal and state courts at both the trial and appellate levels.

Christopher F. Wong, a member of the Commercial Litigation Practice Group in the firm's Los Angeles office, has handled a wide variety of cases, both federal and state, involving investor fraud, real estate matters, commercial contracts, securities and shareholder claims, trade secret law violations and partnership disputes. Chris has represented private entities, public entities, investor groups and individuals.

Biographies for the four new counsel follow:

Marion B. Cooper is a member of the Labor & Employment Practice Group in the firm's Florham Park office. Marion represents management in all aspects of traditional labor and employment matters, particularly public employers in defending a variety of complaints. Marion has also negotiated collective bargaining agreements and has counseled public and private employers on labor relations strategies, union organizing, contested elections and other issues.

Andrea L. D'Ambra is a member of the Commercial Litigation Practice Group in the firm's Philadelphia office, specializing in intellectual property litigation and electronic discovery. Andrea has represented clients in a myriad of patent, copyright and trade dress infringement cases in federal courts across the country. In addition, Andrea frequently counsels clients involved in high volume discovery on cost efficient methods to meet their discovery obligations. She has served as lead trial counsel in both state and federal court actions and has argued before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.

Lauren D. Godfrey, a member of the Products Liability & Mass Tort Practice Group in the firm's Florham Park office, focuses her practice on defending pharmaceutical companies with regard to pharmaceutical products and medical devices. She has also represented insurance carriers in litigation involving the transfer of structured settlement payment rights.

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Sandra L. Weiherer is a member of the Products Liability & Mass Tort Practice Group in the firm's Los Angeles office. She concentrates her practice on products liability litigation involving chemical exposure, pharmaceutical products and medical devices. Sandra has also represented a number of insurance carriers in breach of contract actions and insurance coverage disputes.

Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP is a national law firm with 650 lawyers in 11 offices providing client service in areas such as commercial litigation, communications litigation, corporate and securities, corporate restructuring, employee benefits and executive compensation, environment and energy, government and regulatory affairs, health care, insurance coverage, intellectual property, investment management, labor and employment, life insurance and annuities, private client service, products liability and mass tort litigation, and real estate.