

Drinker Biddle

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Steven K. Kortanek Joins Drinker Biddle's Corporate Restructuring Group *Expands national bankruptcy practice in Delaware market*

PHILADELPHIA—Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP has expanded its bankruptcy and corporate restructuring team with the addition of Steven K. Kortanek as a partner residing in the Wilmington office.

“Delaware is one of the primary venues for business bankruptcy filings in the country. Steve will add continued momentum in a key office for the firm and our strategic growth initiatives,” said Andrew C. Kassner, Chairman and CEO of Drinker Biddle. “His excellent reputation and strong relationships in the business and legal community in Delaware and across the country make him a tremendous addition to the firm.”

Previously, Mr. Kortanek was a partner in the Wilmington office of Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, LLP. He focuses his practice on business restructuring and bankruptcy, as well as litigation in Delaware state and federal courts. His clients include chapter 11 debtors, senior management, official committees, secured lenders, trade creditors, landlords, asset purchasers, estate representatives, and major creditor and equity holder constituencies.

Mr. Kortanek has diverse industry and issues experience, including retail, manufacturing, telecommunications and internet businesses, general contracting, health care, transportation, life sciences, and intellectual property. His bankruptcy practice also includes complex valuation litigation, claim litigation, and preference and avoidance litigation.

“Steve’s bankruptcy, corporate restructuring and mediation experience complement and build on our existing capabilities so we can better serve our clients nationwide,” said Kristin K. Going, Chair of the Corporate Restructuring Practice. “He is a highly experienced lawyer who brings additional depth to our team and will help us maintain a competitive national bankruptcy practice.”

"Drinker Biddle's well-articulated and compelling vision, not only for its Delaware office, but firm wide, presents an appealing opportunity and fit for me, my clients and referral sources," said Mr. Kortanek. "I look forward to contributing to the firm's capabilities in innovative debtor and official committee representations, among other types of restructuring work."

Mr. Kortanek is a certified mediator who serves on the Register of Mediators and Arbitrators by appointment of the Delaware Bankruptcy Court. He is currently serving as the Chair of the Bankruptcy Section of the Delaware State Bar Association, and recently served as Program Chair of the American Bankruptcy Institute's Delaware Views from the Bench.

He earned his law degree from the University of Pittsburgh, and a bachelor's degree from Northwestern University.

Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP is a national law firm with 620 lawyers in 12 offices. The firm provides client service in areas such as energy and environment, government and regulatory affairs, commercial litigation, real estate, bankruptcy and corporate restructuring, insurance, intellectual property, tax, privacy and data security, corporate and securities, employee benefits and executive compensation, investment management, private client services, labor and employment, and health care.