

Earthtimes.org (Press Release)

Print this Page

Close Window

McDonald Hopkins Law Firm Continues to Expand in a Down Economy

Posted on : 2009-07-24 | Author : McDonald Hopkins LLC

News Category : PressRelease

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., July 24 FL-McDonaldHopkinsGro

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., July 24 /PRNewswire/ -- While many South Florida law firms continue to struggle in this difficult economy, McDonald Hopkins continues to expand. Since opening its West Palm Beach office in 2004, McDonald Hopkins has grown in South Florida from its initial four attorneys to 15 attorneys today. While many law firms are downsizing, the McDonald Hopkins' West Palm Beach office announces the recent addition of three experienced attorneys-- Howard K. Coates, Jr., Mary F. April and Spencer Gollahon.

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20090724/CL51530-a>)

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20090724/CL51530-b>)

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20090724/CL51530-c>)

"We believe that the addition of Howard K. Coates, Jr. and his colleagues will be a strategic move in our marketplace," said John T. Metzger, managing member of the firm's West Palm Beach office. "Before joining us, Howard maintained a very successful practice, focusing on the areas of commercial litigation, estate and probate, and general transactional work. Our new association presents many opportunities to better serve our clients, especially in Wellington, where Howard resides and is a member of the Village Council."

"We are very excited about our association with the McDonald Hopkins law firm," said Howard Coates. "We look forward to being part of a diverse commercial law firm with an entrepreneurial spirit that will benefit our clients." Coates, who joins McDonald Hopkins as a member, was the founder of the Coates Law Firm. Coates has more than 20 years of commercial litigation experience. His background includes 10 years as leader of the Florida Litigation and Dispute Resolution Department of the New York-based law firm of Proskauer Rose LLP, where he was a partner. Coates has tried and litigated many cases in state and federal courts throughout Florida as well as nationally. His legal background includes handling hundreds of cases in alternative dispute resolution forums (both as attorney and mediator), including the American Arbitration Association and the New York Stock Exchange.

Coates received his law degree from Yale University, and over the years, Coates has been highly involved in numerous professional, civic and community service activities. At present, he serves on the boards of the Palm Beach County Legal Aid Society and the Boys and Girls Club of Wellington. Further, Coates is a Councilman on the Village of Wellington Council.

Mary F. April joins McDonald Hopkins as Of Counsel. Her legal practice is focused on the areas of commercial litigation and dispute resolution on matters such as trade secrets, trust disputes, mortgage foreclosures, business torts, insurance coverage disputes, non-compete agreements, and creditors' bankruptcy issues. April's experience also includes construction-related issues, franchise litigation, defense of securities class action and medical device product liability cases.

April has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Florida Atlantic University and a J.D. from the University of Florida.

Spencer Gollahon, who joins McDonald Hopkins as an associate, has diverse experience in both litigation and transactional matters, such as bankruptcy, business, commercial, employment, international, probate, and real estate. He has litigated, arbitrated, and mediated cases in various state and federal courts throughout Florida.

Gollahon has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bowling Green State University, a Master's of Business Administration degree from Nova Southeastern University and a J.D. from Shepard Broad Law Center. His wide-ranging background includes managing several law firms, serving as a law enforcement officer, working as a stunt fighter in the action film industry, and teaching martial arts.

About McDonald Hopkins

McDonald Hopkins is a business advisory and advocacy law firm with more than 130 attorneys. The firm has offices in Chicago, Cleveland, Columbus, Detroit, and West Palm Beach. The president of McDonald Hopkins is Carl J. Grassi. For more information about McDonald Hopkins, visit www.mcdonaldhopkins.com.

Available Topic Expert(s): For information on the listed expert(s), click appropriate link.

John Metzger

<https://profnet.prnewswire.com/Subscriber/ExpertProfile.aspx?ei=77067>

CONTACT:

Deborah W. Kelm
McDonald Hopkins LLC
Phone: 216.348.5733
Email: dkelm@mcdonaldhopkins.com

SOURCE McDonald Hopkins LLC

Print this Page

Close Window

Press Release Print Source :

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/mcdonald-hopkins-law-firm-continues-to-expand-in-a-down-economy,903795.shtml>

© 2009 earthtimes.org. All Rights Reserved.

This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed.