

On the Move

Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP

welcomes Nathan David O'Malley as partner in Los Angeles
from Gibbs Giden Locher Turner Senet & Wittbrodt LLP

Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP has hired Nathan David O'Malley as a partner in its Los Angeles office. O'Malley, who joins from Gibbs Giden Locher Turner Senet & Wittbrodt LLP, specializes in international arbitration and has experience representing clients in The Hague, Singapore, Abu Dhabi, Geneva, Zurich, and North America. He has served as an international arbitrator and was appointed under the International Criminal Court and the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law in disputes in various European and Latin American Countries.



NATHAN DAVID O'MALLEY

house counsel in a number of companies, including Console Inc., Cisco Systems, The Flexitallic Group, and Level 3 Communications.

welcomes Yan Zhang as partner in Palo Alto
from Haynes and Boone LLP

Baker Botts LLP has hired Yan Zhang as a partner in the firm's Palo Alto office. Zhang, who joins from Haynes and Boone LLP, is a member of the corporate practice. He represents private and public companies and financial institutions in securities and corporate transactions. He also has experience assisting clients with joint ventures, mergers and acquisitions, compliance and corporate governance, and foreign direct investment. He has special expertise in cross border transactions in China.



YAN ZHANG

buildings, retail, mixed-use and hospitality projects, and land for residential development.

new partner Alexis R. Alonzo in Los Angeles

Pircher, Nichols & Meeks has promoted Alexis R. Alonzo to partner in its Los Angeles office. Alonzo, who joined the firm from the Pacific Investment Management Company LLC in 2006, focuses on complex real estate transactions. She represents institutional investors, developers and public and private homebuilders in matters involving the acquisitions, disposition, and financing of land for residential development and office, industrial, retail, hotel and other commercial real estate assets. She also has experience negotiating and drafting joint venture agreements, development management agreements and property management agreements for different kinds of assets.



ALEXIS R. ALONZO

Reed Smith LLP

welcomes Scott C. Smith as partner in San Francisco
from Hanson Bridgett LLP

Reed Smith LLP has hired Scott C. Smith as partner in its San Francisco office. Smith, who joined from Hanson Bridgett LLP, is a member of the firm's global corporate group. He has experience advising institutional investors, corporations, partnerships, limited liability corporations, and nonprofits. He has worked with private and public companies on equity and debt financings, mergers and acquisitions and general business issues. He also advises venture capital funds, private equity funds, hedge and real estate funds on fund formation, investment activities, corporate governance, and compliance and fund restructurings. His past clients have also included public and private universities, state, county and city retirement systems, and corporate investors.



SCOTT C. SMITH

Nossaman LLP

welcomes Steven H. Kaufmann as partner in Los Angeles
from Richards Watson & Gershon

Nossaman LLP has hired Steven H. Kaufmann as partner in the firm's Los Angeles office. Kaufmann, who joins from Richards Watson & Gershon, focuses his practice on California coastal law. He has represented developers, public agencies and public utilities in a variety of California Coastal Commission matters, including labor compliance program adoptions and amendments, coastal development permit approvals, and litigations involving coastal regulations. Before entering private practice, Kaufmann worked for 14 years as deputy attorney general assigned to the California Coastal Commission.



STEVEN H. KAUFMANN

Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP

new partner G. Gregg Webb in San Francisco

Shook, Hardy & Bacon LLP has elevated G. Gregg Webb to partner in the firm's San Francisco office. Webb's practice involves representing product manufacturers and companies dealing with product sales and distributions. He advises clients on product liability defense and complex commercial litigation, which includes over licenses and other business agreements. He also has experience handling multidistrict litigation and other types of aggregate litigation proceedings.



G. GREGG WEBB

new firm Rothstein Law APC

<http://grothsteinlaw.com/>

Rothstein Law APC is a new litigation boutique focused on entertainment, sports, interactive gaming and digital and mobile app industries. It was founded by Glen A. Rothstein, a former partner of Greenberg Glusker Fields Claman & Machtinger LLP.

welcomes Glen A. Rothstein as partner in Los Angeles
from Greenberg Glusker Fields Claman & Machtinger LLP

Glen A. Rothstein has opened a new boutique law office, Rothstein Law APC in Los Angeles. Rothstein, a former partner of Greenberg Glusker Fields Claman & Machtinger LLP, litigates matters relating to sports, entertainment, interactive gaming, and mobile app industries. His past clients have included Lionsgate Entertainment Inc., Grindstone Entertainment Group, Crytek GmbH, AltaMed Health Services Corp., former NFL player Warren Sapp, and actress Sasha Grey. Rothstein is also the CEO and founder of Where Were You When...? LLC, a brand and licensing sports and lifestyle apparel company.



GLEN A. ROTHSTEIN

Pierce Sergenian LLP

welcomes Joseph R. Ashby as of counsel in Los Angeles
from Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP

Pierce Sergenian LLP has hired Joseph R. Ashby as of counsel in the firm's Los Angeles office. Ashby, who joins from Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan LLP, is a litigator who has handled class actions matters involving product defect, false advertising, and wage and hour. He has represented Epson, Nestle, Samsung Group, Hyundai Motor America, and Kia Motors America.

welcomes Darin T. Beffa as partner in Los Angeles
from Kirkland & Ellis LLP

Pierce Sergenian LLP has hired Darin T. Beffa as partner in the firm's Los Angeles office. Beffa, who joins from Kirkland & Ellis LLP, is a litigator who has represented clients in high-profile matters, including the Deepwater Horizon oil rig explosion and the General Motors ignition switch scandal. He has experience litigating matters involving environmental regulation, patents, products liability and government contracts.



JOSEPH R. ASHBY

Robins Kaplan LLP

new member of the executive board Michael A. Geibelson in Los Angeles

Michael Geibelson, managing partner of Robins Kaplan's Los Angeles and Silicon Valley offices, has been appointed to a one-year term on the firm's executive board. Geibelson's practice focuses on complex business disputes involving misappropriation of trade secrets, business and consumer fraud, breaches of contract, antitrust, individual class claims, and various real estate disputes.

Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP

welcomes Jan Ira Goldsmith as of counsel in San Diego
from San Diego City Attorney's Office

Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch LLP has hired Jan Goldsmith as of counsel in its San Diego office. Goldsmith, who joined from the San Diego City Attorney's office, is a member of the litigation team. Prior to serving as San Diego's City Attorney, Goldsmith was a judge on the San Diego Superior Court. He also served three terms as a member of the California State Assembly and as a councilman and mayor for the city of Poway.



JAN IRA GOLDSMITH

Baker Botts LLP

welcomes Cynthia J. Cole as special counsel in Palo Alto
from Spectra 7 Microsystems

Baker Botts LLP has hired Cynthia J. Cole as special counsel in its Palo Alto office. Cole, who joins from Spectra 7 Microsystems where she was vice president and general counsel, is a member of the corporate practice. She has experience dealing with global companies and private equity funds in complex strategic business transactions. She has advised companies on a range of complex transactions, including mergers, acquisitions, asset purchase and joint developments. She has served as in-



CYNTHIA J. COLE

Pircher, Nichols & Meeks

new partner Ariel B. Robinson in Los Angeles

Pircher, Nichols & Meeks has elevated Ariel B. Robinson to partner in its Los Angeles office. Robinson, who joined the firm from Liner LLP in 2007, focuses on real estate transactional matters and represents private and institutional investors, as well as owners and developers. She has experience handling matters involving complex real estate transactions, including acquisitions and dispositions, financings and development. In the past, she has dealt with various kinds of assets, including office and industrial



ARIEL B. ROBINSON

Post your firm's notices about lateral attorney moves, office openings and partner promotions at www.dailyjournal.com/otm.

—Eli Wolfe

SEC pick pressed on travel pause by ex-lawyers at his firm

By Elizabeth Olson

New York Times News Service

Some members of the elite legal community are making an unusual appeal to one of their own, asking that he speak out against the White House's attempt to restrict travel to the United States by people from several predominantly Muslim countries.

A group of 27 former associates from the law firm Sullivan & Cromwell sent a letter Thursday to Walter J. Clayton, who is known as Jay, a Sullivan & Cromwell partner and President Donald Trump's nominee to become chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

In the letter, the group urges Clayton, whose Senate confirmation hearings are set for next week, to publicly denounce Trump's proposed travel ban.

The former Sullivan & Cromwell lawyers ask that Clayton speak out during his confirmation hearings and stand up for the legal profes-



Protesters demonstrate against President Donald Trump's revised travel ban, outside the U.S. Customs and Border Protection headquarters in Washington on March 7.

sion by "unequivocally opposing" the president's executive orders and "the unlawful, cruel and shameful actions of this administration."

Trump has issued two such orders, the first of which suspended entry to the United States by people from Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen, and the second removing Iraqi nationals from the list.

Clayton is a longtime partner at Sullivan & Cromwell, which is known for its representation of Goldman Sachs and major financial firms. As the president's choice to lead the SEC, he has come under scrutiny over whether he will use his experience to protect investors or to loosen regulations that have constrained Wall Street activities in recent years.

The former Sullivan &

Cromwell lawyers ask that Clayton join those in the legal profession "who have stood, and will continue to stand, in defense of those targeted at the order of the president you are about to serve in the courts, in the streets, in the airport terminals in New York City, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco and elsewhere."

"The SEC does not make immigration policy, but if one is confirmed by Congress, you are an important member of the administration," said Chiansan Ma, one of those who signed the letter. Ma, a legal services lawyer, left Sullivan & Cromwell last year.

Clayton's office did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Ma said that those who signed the letter were not criticizing their former colleague, but were appealing to him "from a place of respect."

The former associates, none of whom worked directly with Clayton at the firm, write that "by ob-

servation and reputation each one of us regards you as a person of professionalism and integrity and as a leader of the firm, our profession and our community."

But, they note, they have felt "growing alarm" over the Trump administration's "actions and statements" regarding the travel ban, and they cite "disturbing reports and allegations regarding the implementation" of the executive order.

The group says their concerns include reports that officials "have detained individuals to whom the United States has already granted legal permanent residency; that they have pressured holders of lawfully issued U.S. visas to waive their rights under those visas and leave this country under threat of deportation; that they have barred detainees from speaking with legal counsel; and that they have acted in contempt of federal court orders to desist."

Even the revised executive order, the letter says, "will continue

to cause needless confusion, suffering and fear."

And that, the letter says, could include "members of the legal profession seeking to join U.S.-based firms such as Sullivan & Cromwell."

Large international firms like Sullivan & Cromwell hire lawyers from around the world, but the president's executive orders have cast doubt on the ability of some foreign-born lawyers to work in the United States, the letter says. "Law graduates who have offers of employment at U.S. firms fear they will be unable to practice in the United States," said Mohammad H. Fadel, a former Sullivan & Cromwell associate who signed the letter.

Fadel, now an associate professor at the University of Toronto Faculty of Law, said some of his students with employment offers in New York are citizens of countries identified in the executive orders, such as Syria and Iran.