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## Industry Watch

# Sheppard Mullin Gains Litigator From Lord Bissell

**By Rebecca U. Cho**  
Daily Journal Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES — Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton strengthened its Los Angeles litigation practice last week with the addition of partner Christopher Reeder, a complex business litigator formerly with Lord, Bissell & Brook.

Reeder, 37, brings experience in litigation involving real estate, complex commercial disputes, entertainment, aviation and employment. He had practiced at Lord Bissell's Los Angeles office since February 2006 before making the move to Sheppard Mullin.

Also joining Reeder at Sheppard Mullin are former Lord Bissell special counsel Beverly Lu, and associates Gabriel Green and Gene Wu.

Reeder indicated the decision to move wasn't difficult.

"The opportunity to join Sheppard Mullin is an opportunity that could never be passed up," Reeder said. "It provides us with a national platform based in L.A. that's dominant throughout California."

Guy Halgren, Sheppard Mullin's chairman, said his firm tapped Reeder for his litigating talent and personal appeal, noting that "the clients love him." Although Reeder's work is based heavily in real estate, Halgren said, he considers Reeder a top-notch general litigator.

"He's one of those litigators who's a litigator first, specialist second," Halgren said.

The Los Angeles office of Sheppard Mullin houses about 140 attorneys, more than half of them litigators. Halgren said he plans to add more litigators to the firm in coming months



ROBERT LEVINS/ Daily Journal

Formerly of Lord Bissell & Brook, litigators Gene Wu, left, Christopher Reeder, Gabriel Green, and Beverly Lu joined the downtown Los Angeles office of Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton.

and spends "a good amount of time" purveying the legal landscape for strong prospects.

Reeder said he anticipates bringing his entire book of business, which includes the real estate investment firm The Golshan Group, Space Vector Corp., and Pemco Aviation Group Inc.

In a case that settled on favorable terms this year, Reeder represented Rightpath Limited, a major land development company in Arizona, over charges of conspiracy to defraud that involved more than \$35 million in damages against defendants that Rightpath claimed had interfered in its acquisition of a Las Vegas resort.

Reeder also represented Frontier Dental Management before the Los Angeles Superior Court, and a successful judgement was obtained in May.

A 1997 graduate of the University of Dayton School of Law, Reeder more recently worked at Kaye Scholer for six years in the firm's complex litigation practice before moving to Lord Bissell last year.

Sheppard Mullin counts 480 attorneys practicing in 10 offices across the United States and in Shanghai.

Lord Bissell is a 310-attorney firm with offices in Chicago, Los Angeles, New York, Washington, D.C., and London.