

### Sheppard Mullin Names Robert Beall As Firm's Administrative Partner

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Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP is pleased to announce that Business Trial Practice Group leader Robert Beall has been appointed administrative partner of the firm. Beall, based in the Orange County office, will work closely with the firm's chair, Guy Halgren, in this newly created position.

"We are delighted to appoint Robert as the firm's administrative partner. He has endless enthusiasm and has done a superior job of managing the firm's very large and diverse Business Trial Practice Group, which he will continue to lead," said Halgren. "Since I became chairman four years ago, the firm has grown from four to nine offices and from 292 to 440 attorneys, and we now have offices on both coasts. As we continue this level of growth, it's clear that we need additional strength at the management level."

Beall stated, "I am looking forward to this increased responsibility and working closely with Guy on firmwide management issues. I will be spending significant time working with the firm's Practice Groups to make them more effective and to increase coordination among them. Other immediate responsibilities which will be a priority for me are working on the firm's client service initiative, helping to integrate laterals, and working with the associate development and recruiting partners."

Beall specializes in complex civil litigation and intellectual property disputes, with emphasis in unfair competition, securities, trade secret, patent and professional liability litigation. He has extensive experience handling large class action lawsuits, including class and representative actions filed under Business and Professions Code Section 17200 and 17500 and general business litigation matters in a wide range of areas. Beall also has significant expertise in handling accountant malpractice actions.

#### **About Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP**

Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP is a full service AmLaw 100 firm with 430 attorneys in nine offices located throughout California and in New York and Washington, D.C. The firm's California offices are located in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Santa Barbara, Century City, Orange County, Del Mar Heights and San Diego. Sheppard Mullin provides legal expertise and counsel to U.S. and international clients in a wide range of practice areas, including Antitrust, Corporate and Securities; Entertainment and Media; Finance and Bankruptcy; Government Contracts; Intellectual Property; Labor and Employment; Litigation; Real Estate/Land Use; Tax, Employee Benefits, Trusts and Estate Planning; and White Collar Defense. The firm was founded in 1927.

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