

Sheppard Mullin San Francisco Continues Growth With ESOP Expert, Partner Larry Goldberg

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Laurence A. Goldberg has joined Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP as a partner in its San Francisco office. Goldberg, most recently with Kirkpatrick & Lockhart in San Francisco, is a member of the Tax, Employee Benefits, and Trusts and Estate Planning practice group.

Goldberg is an expert in ESOPs (Employee Stock Ownership Plans), tax-qualified plans used in corporate acquisitions and recapitalizations, management buyouts, and ownership succession planning. Goldberg also handles ERISA, pension and profit sharing, and employee benefits matters generally.

Guy Halgren, chairman of the firm, said, "Larry is nationally recognized in his field and we are delighted to have him with us." John Bonn, chair of the practice group, added, "Larry's 20-plus years of experience with ESOPs adds another strong pillar to our practice and expands our ability to deliver value-added corporate tax advice to our clients both here in California and in our rapidly growing New York and Washington, D.C. offices."

Commented Goldberg, "Sheppard Mullin is a top-notch law firm that will offer many strong practice groups to our ESOP clients. As just one example, I will team with our superb Government Contracts lawyers in Washington, D.C. and elsewhere to serve our many clients in this vital business sector."

"Larry will add significantly to our existing transactional strength," said Betsy McDaniel, managing partner of the San Francisco office. "He is another top partner acquisition for our office, joining within just weeks of Keith Gercken, Maureen Corcoran and James Chadwick and reflecting our drive to maintain excellence and provide expertise that clients demand." Goldberg graduated from University of Houston Law Center in 1983, earned a LL.M in Taxation from Georgetown University Law Center in 1984 and a B.B.A. from University of Texas in 1980. He was recently named one of the "Top Benefits & Compensation Lawyers in the Bay Area" by *Bay Area Lawyer Magazine*.

About Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP

Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP is a full service AmLaw 100 firm with more than 480 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, Media & Communications; 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.