



Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell_{LLP}

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

D.C. TAX ATTORNEY KIRK VAN BRUNT JOINS LOCKE LORD BISSELL & LIDDELL AS PARTNER

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) September 18, 2008 – Kirk Van Brunt, a recognized and respected tax attorney, has joined Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell as a Partner based in the Firm’s Washington, D.C., office. Van Brunt is highly skilled on the taxation of financial institutions and products, with a particular focus on insurance companies and insurance products. Van Brunt comes to Locke Lord from Davis and Harman, where he concentrated primarily in the areas of taxation and insurance law.

“Kirk is a knowledgeable and admired tax attorney who has a first-hand understanding of how the federal, state and local tax systems work. His experience in working with insurance industry taxation matters will help clients weave through the ever-changing maze of tax issues,” said David Schwinger, Managing Partner of Locke Lord’s D.C. office.

“With D.C. the epicenter of a variety of tax laws, Kirk will be integral to expanding our Tax Practice Group in that office. We are thrilled to have Kirk join our team, and look forward to having a person of his caliber be another authoritative voice for our Firm on a wide variety of tax issues,” said Jerry Clements, Locke Lord Chair.

Van Brunt also has substantial experience in the tax treatment of asset-backed securities and derivative financial instruments. He has authored several publications that answer questions and address concerns about various tax laws. Van Brunt is a member of the D.C. and Massachusetts bars, and the Federal Bar Association. He is also a member of the Tax Section of the American Bar Association, where he is a member of the Committee on Financial Transactions and the Committee on Insurance Companies. Van Brunt received his law degree from Harvard Law School and his Bachelor of Arts degree from Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa, ID.

Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP is a full-service, national law firm of more than 700 attorneys with offices in Atlanta, Austin, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, London, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Sacramento and Washington, D.C. With a vast geographic scope, and a national reputation in complex litigation, regulatory and transactional work, Locke Lord is focused on achieving client success as a team. Among Locke Lord’s many strong practice areas are appellate, aviation, corporate, class action litigation, employee benefits, energy, environmental, financial services, health care, insurance and reinsurance, intellectual property, labor and employment, public law, real estate, regulatory, REIT, tax and technology.

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