



Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell_{LLP}

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORMER U.S. ATTORNEY TIM JOHNSON BEGINS AS PARTNER AT LOCKE LORD TODAY; BECOMES SECOND FORMER U.S. ATTORNEY TO JOIN THE FIRM'S WHITE COLLAR SECTION IN LAST MONTH

(HOUSTON) February 22, 2010 – In just a month's span, two former U.S. Attorneys have joined Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell as part of the growing and high-profile White Collar Criminal Defense practice. Tim Johnson, who resigned as the U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Texas to join Locke Lord, begins work today as a Partner based in the Houston office. Johnson will co-chair the White Collar Criminal Defense and Internal Investigation practice in the Houston office. His move to Locke Lord follows last month's arrival of Paul Coggins, one of the country's highly respected White Collar and Securities litigators and a former U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Texas. Coggins is a Partner based in the Firm's Dallas office and chairs Locke Lord's nationwide White Collar practice.

"We are ecstatic to have Tim join us on the heels of Paul," said Jerry Clements, Chair of Locke Lord. "These strong lateral hires give us additional cachet and position us incredibly well to help our clients successfully navigate through the highly regulated environment in which we all do business. This follows our strategic plan to grow and strengthen our White Collar section not only in Texas, but around the country."

Locke Lord's national White Collar team has vast experiences that include work with the Department of Justice, the Securities & Exchange Commission and the Internal Revenue Service. Our attorneys are experienced in antitrust enforcement, the Foreign Corrupt Practice Act, option back-dating, public corruption, export and import criminal violations, bank fraud, commercial bribery, money laundering, forfeitures, computer fraud and virtually any business or economic criminal allegation.

"Tim is a quality person and a first-class lawyer," said Marc Watts, Managing Partner of the Houston office and Vice Chair of Locke Lord. "He is a very talented and well-respected attorney with an impressive and varied background. He will help us continue the momentum in our White Collar practice."

Johnson, who worked as a Special Agent with the Intelligence Division and later the Criminal Investigation Division of the Internal Revenue Service, first joined the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Texas in 1985 as an Assistant U.S. Attorney. In this capacity, he prosecuted for bank robbery, tax fraud and money laundering, and fraud committed against the United States. After practicing general litigation and white collar criminal defense in private practice, Johnson returned to the U.S. Attorney's Office in 2006 as the First Assistant U.S. Attorney under Don DeGabrielle. He became U.S. Attorney in 2008.

He received his law degree from South Texas College of Law, and his Bachelor of Business Administration degree in Accounting from The University of Texas.

Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP is a full-service, national law firm with offices in Atlanta, Austin, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, London, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Sacramento, San Francisco 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, bankruptcy, corporate, class action litigation, employee benefits, energy, environmental, financial services, health care, insurance and reinsurance industries, intellectual property, labor and employment, public law, real estate, REIT, tax and technology.

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