

Cole Schotz Expands Bankruptcy Practice with Addition of Three Texas-Based Attorneys

Hackensack, N.J., April 30, 2010 – The law firm of Cole, Schotz, Meisel, Forman & Leonard, P.A. is pleased to announce the addition of three Texas-based attorneys to the firm. Joining the firm’s Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring practice will be partner Michael D. Warner, Emily S. Chou as of counsel and associate Rachel R. Obaldo. All three attorneys previously practiced at WarnerStevens LLP, which is dissolving.

“The addition of these three attorneys enhances our already strong Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring practice and expands the depth of our service offerings in the area of bankruptcy law,” said Michael D. Sirota, co-managing partner of Cole Schotz. “We recognize the value that this team of attorneys will bring to our clients, and we are pleased to welcome them to our firm.”

“Cole Schotz has an excellent reputation, and we have enjoyed a long-standing business relationship over the years with many of the firm’s partners,” says Mr. Warner. “We look forward to working collaboratively as part of the Cole Schotz team. Our clients will benefit from this transition as well, and we know that combining our services with those existing at Cole Schotz will be mutually beneficial.”

Mr. Warner has a national bankruptcy practice, which focuses exclusively on representing clients in mergers and acquisitions, reorganization cases and out of court workouts. He routinely represents creditor committees in national bankruptcy cases and has considerable experience in cases in the food, steel, and oil and gas industries. In addition, Mr. Warner frequently represents the interests of prominent hedge funds and lenders to distressed entities in bankruptcy cases.

Ms. Chou practices in the areas of bankruptcy, general corporate law and business litigation. Before attending law school, Ms. Chou was the contract negotiator for a property management company responsible for an office building in downtown Taipei, Taiwan. In this capacity, she negotiated, drafted and executed lease contracts with multinational firms, including Intel, Lockheed-Martin and Pratt & Whitney.

Ms. Obaldo practices in the areas of bankruptcy, general corporate law and business litigation. Before attending law school, she became a certified public accountant and worked for Ernst & Young LLP in Dallas. Ms. Obaldo has experience with the legal systems of the U.K. and the European Union, and has performed extensive transnational legal research.

Cole Schotz serves clients throughout the U.S. with offices in New Jersey, New York, Delaware, Maryland and Texas. The firm represents closely held businesses and individuals as well as Fortune 500 companies. Founded in 1928, the firm has grown to 120 attorneys who work in eight primary areas of practice: Litigation; Real Estate; Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring; Tax, Trusts & Estates; Corporate, Finance & Business Transactions; Employment; Environmental; and Construction Services.

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