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## Sheppard Mullin Snags Mayer Brown Int'l Antitrust Duo

By **Melissa Lipman**

*Law360, New York (September 21, 2009)* -- Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP has picked up two former Mayer Brown LLP attorneys specializing in international cartel investigations for its Washington office, part of the firm's effort to expand its East Coast antitrust practice as the Obama administration ramps up antitrust enforcement.

Donald C. Klawiter, who will head up the firm's East Coast antitrust practice, and Jennifer M. Driscoll-Chippendale joined Sheppard Mullin as partners Monday.

Klawiter works mainly on antitrust investigations and litigation, with a particular focus on international cartel work.

Klawiter has represented companies and executives in "virtually all ... of the major cartel cases" over the past decade, he said, including in the feed additives, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, glass, plastics, automotive, brokerage, graphite electrode and computer products industries.

The 34-year veteran has also worked at the international coordinating counsel in a variety of multijurisdictional cases and has run internal crisis teams for corporations that investigate whether a company has run afoul of any antitrust laws, advise boards of directors and audit committees, and develop plans to handle corporate governance concerns, the firm said.

But while he and Driscoll-Chippendale plan to continue to work in that arena, they will also looking to begin working on cases involving monopolization, mergers and other enforcement proceedings, Klawiter said.

"We were presented with an extraordinary opportunity to sort of build and develop the east coast practice for a firm that had traditionally had most of its antitrust work and its antitrust representation on the west coast," he said.

Despite its "wonderful antitrust pedigree," Klawiter noted that Sheppard Mullin's East Coast offices are newer and described the move as "an opportunity to build an antitrust practice on the East Coast — Washington and New York in particular — especially at a time when the enforcement side seems to be changing rather dramatically with the new administration."

Klawiter expects to see an increase in antitrust investigations from the Obama administration, as well as "a lot of new cases and case theories," he said.

Klawiter — who joined Mayer Brown along with Driscoll-Chippendale in late 2007 after 21 years with Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP — also has experience as a government prosecutor. He spent 11 years at the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice in a variety of senior supervisory positions before entering private practice.

As the other half of the new antitrust team, Driscoll-Chippendale brings experience with international cartel probes, European Commission merger investigations and Sherman Act class actions in the United States. Her practice centers around antitrust investigations, litigation and counseling.

"Don and Jen will be great assets to the D.C. office," said Ed Schiff, managing partner of Sheppard Mullin's Washington office. "They bring incredible antitrust investigations and litigation expertise that adds significant depth to the office's antitrust and other regulatory capabilities.

Klawiter headed the Antitrust Law Section of the American Bar Association from 2005 to 2006, and he is currently the chair of the International Cartel Task Force, while Driscoll-Chippendale serves as the vice chair of the section's International Committee.

Klawiter earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Pennsylvania in 1972 and graduated from the university's law school in 1975.

Driscoll-Chippendale earned bachelor's and master's of public administration degrees from Cornell University in 1993 and 1996, respectively, and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 2000.