

Leading Finance Attorney, Gregory B. Mendenhall, Joins Sheppard Mullin In Washington, D.C.

07.02.2003

Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP announced today that Gregory B. Mendenhall has joined the Firm as special counsel in the Finance and Bankruptcy Practice Group, in Washington, D.C. Mendenhall's practice includes maritime finance, ship construction, federal maritime regulation and policy, corporate and business transactions, Internet governance and policies, and federal legislative and administrative representation. He represents clients before various federal agencies, including the Department of Transportation, the Department of Commerce, the United States Coast Guard, the Military Sealift Command, the United States Customs Service, and the Federal Communications Commission. He also represents client policy matters before the United States Congress.

Bob Magielnicki, Administrative Partner of the Washington, D.C. office, said, "Gregg is a talented attorney with a great deal of experience in commercial financing and maritime law. He brings added expertise to Sheppard Mullin's growing Washington office." Added Richard Brunette, Chair of the Finance and Bankruptcy Practice Group "Gregg brings substantial breadth to our finance capabilities. His skill set fits well into our strategic plan to grow the finance practice on the East Coast."

Commented Mendenhall, "I am excited to join Sheppard Mullin and practice law with my former colleagues in Washington, D.C. Sheppard Mullin is a great firm with a substantial finance practice that serves leading financial institutions. I look forward to developing the practice on the East Coast, as well as continuing my federal administrative and legislative practice."

Mendenhall has extensive experience in maritime law, having spent ten years handling business matters within the industry. Mendenhall served as vice president and director of United States Lines, Inc., where he supervised and directed the worldwide vessel operations, overseas construction of U.S.-flag vessels and the U.S. Navy (MSC) chartering operations. He is currently serving as a director for Trailer Bridge, Inc. Mendenhall represents various lenders on maritime loans, financial structuring and sale leaseback transactions. He has negotiated complex domestic tanker construction contracts and the associated joint venture citizenship structures and Title XI financing guarantees. Mendenhall has also negotiated foreign vessel construction contracts. Additionally, he was instrumental in the passage of legislation that permitted domestic U.S.-flag vessel lease financing and changed the certificate of documentation endorsements and manning requirements of the U.S. Coast Guard. He also has represented the International Air Transport Association in the securitization of airline receivables through the IATA Currency Clearance Service.

Mendenhall received his law degree from The George Washington University Law School in 1971, and his undergraduate degree from Brigham Young University in 1968. He is admitted to practice in the District of Columbia and the United States District Court for the District of Columbia. In addition to being a member of the

American Bar Association, Mendenhall is a member of the District of Columbia Bar Association, the Maritime Law Association of the United States, and the Association of Commercial Finance Attorneys. He has conducted several presentations on various maritime and aviation issues.

The Washington, DC office also previously welcomed associate, Robert L. Magielnicki, Jr. Magielnicki concentrates his practice on general corporate transactions, mergers and acquisitions, federal and state tax planning and compliance, tax controversy resolution, probate and administration of complex trusts and estates, tax exempt organizations, fiduciary litigation, charitable giving, and asset protection planning. He received his law degree from Stetson University College of Law in 1996, where he was *Law Review* Articles and Symposia Editor, and his undergraduate degree from the University of Virginia in 1992.

Sheppard Mullin has more than **370 attorneys** among its **eight offices** in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, San Francisco, Orange County, San Diego, Santa Barbara, West Los Angeles, and Del Mar Heights. The full-service firm provides counsel in Antitrust and Trade Regulation; White Collar and Civil Fraud Defense; Business Litigation; Construction, Environmental, Real Estate and Land Use Litigation; Corporate; Entertainment and Media; Finance and Bankruptcy; Financial Institutions; Government Contracts and Regulated Industries; Healthcare; Intellectual Property; Labor and Employment; Real Estate, Land Use, Natural Resources and Environment; and Tax, Employee Benefits, Trusts and Estates. **The Firm celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2002.**

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