

Seyfarth Shaw Names New Chicago Labor & Employment Department Practice Chair

CHICAGO (May 1, 2012) — Seyfarth Shaw announced today that partner William P. Schurgin has been appointed Chair of the Chicago Labor & Employment Department. In his new role, Schurgin is responsible for driving business development and client service efforts, and leading key firm-wide initiatives, such as the firm's successful Fellows Program, while maintaining his active Labor & Employment practice.

As Chair, Schurgin leads a team of more than 100 attorneys, which represents one of the largest groups in the firm. Responsible for driving the firm's national labor and employment initiatives at the office level, his accountabilities include leading business development activities in Chicago, ensuring delivery of high quality service to the firm's key clients and overseeing talent management, hiring, professional development and performance evaluation activities for attorneys under his leadership. Schurgin also assists in strategic planning for Seyfarth's national Labor and Employment platform.

Schurgin, a certified Lean Six Sigma green belt and is a member of the Department's Steering Committee and Leadership Team. He was instrumental in implementing the firm's Fellows Program, launched in 2011, which provides second year law school students with a demonstrated interest in labor and employment law the opportunity to develop robust, hands-on skills in employment law. The program combines an extensive, specialized training curriculum on substantive labor and employment law, ethics, client service, marketing, legal writing, communications and finance.

"I'm honored by this new role and look forward to rolling out initiatives like our successful Fellows Program that will help further cultivate our collaborative culture, which is an important element of providing the best service to our clients," Schurgin said. "We have an incredibly strong network of attorneys in our Chicago office, and I look forward to the further development of our team as we continue to focus on new and innovative programs to support the growth of our lawyers at every level."

One of Schurgin's new 2012 initiatives is to expand upon the associate coaching program he started after receiving his Certificate in Coaching from the American Society of Training and Development in 2009. "I am very excited to be able to pilot an associate career coaching program that will work with attorneys to determine coaching goals, desired results and objectives to help facilitate their grow and potential. By the end of this year we hope to have a majority of our Chicago labor and employment associates actively engaged in career coaching provided by the firm."

Schurgin, a leading labor and employment lawyer, represents clients in a broad range of labor and employment matters including labor relations, wage and hour actions, collective bargaining, corporate campaigns, union organizing and employment discrimination actions with a strong emphasis on strategic counseling. Schurgin is the current President of the Illinois Health Lawyers Association, Member of the College of Employment Lawyers, Past Chair of the Labor and Employment Committee of the American Health Lawyers Association and a member of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Labor Law Committee. Schurgin is also a prolific writer and speaker in the field; he teaches a course of labor and employment law at

Loyola University College of Law and is co-editor of the book, *Guide to Employment Law Compliance* (Thomson Reuters).

Seyfarth Shaw has over 800 attorneys located in 10 offices throughout the United States, including: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, New York, Sacramento, San Francisco and Washington, D.C., as well as internationally in London. Seyfarth Shaw provides a broad range of legal services in the areas of labor and employment, employee benefits, litigation, corporate and real estate. The firm's clients include over 300 of the *Fortune* 500 companies, and our practice reflects virtually every industry and segment of the economy. For more information, please visit www.seyfarth.com.

