

In The News

Munsch Hardt Adds Ex-Coats Rose Construction Atty In Texas

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Munsch Hardt has added a former Coats Rose PC director with more than 10 years of construction law experience as an associate in its Austin office.

Matthew Talley joined Munsch Hardt Kopf & Harr PC on March 27 to work in the firm's construction group. Talley joined the firm shortly after being named director of Coats Rose's construction and surety section in January. Prior to his promotion to director, Talley had worked as an associate at Coats for almost 10 years. Munsch Hardt announced the hiring in an April 4 press release.

Talley said the move was a good opportunity to grow his practice and contribute to the firm's real estate section.

"I had worked with some Munsch Hardt attorneys previously," Talley told Law360 on Tuesday. "With the reputation of Munsch Hardt, it gives me the potential to grow the construction and the real estate section."

Munsch Hardt's Austin office managing shareholder Jay Ong told Law360 the firm will benefit from having added Talley.

"Our acquiring Matt was based on his experience with transactional real estate and construction management."

Ong said Talley not only can represent a client in a real estate transaction, but he's also well versed in construction law and how insurance works in the industry. Part of the firm's "strategic plan" in hiring Talley was to expand its presence in central and west Texas, making use of Talley's experience in San Antonio. Ong said the firm's construction practice has taken on a national scope, which it's trying to expand.

"We have big plans for Matt," Ong said.

Ong said adding Talley indicates how much the firm is focused on strategic growth. He said the firm doesn't hire just to add numbers.

"Our clients require the dedicated expertise of attorneys who thoroughly understand both real estate transactions and construction disputes," Ong said in a press release. "Matt possesses exceptional dual expertise in these fields."

During his career, Talley has developed and negotiated all kinds of construction contracts — subcontracts, purchase orders, professional services contracts, facility maintenance agreements and employment agreements. He also has experience with insurance coverage and risk management in the construction field. Talley also helps clients with bond and lien claims as well as arbitration.

"And here, I can work with other attorneys that have a similar set of skills," Talley said.

Talley, who graduated from South Texas College of Law, has also spoken to various groups on construction law topics. He spoke in July 2016 at the Texas Engineering Law Seminar, where he covered the topic of managing risk with general and professional liability insurance coverage. He also lectured at the University of Texas at San Antonio, conducting a lesson about liens and bonds for a construction science class.

The full article can also be viewed [here](#).

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