

## Press Release

# Munsch Hardt Expands Energy and Maritime Practice Through Addition of Two Attorneys in Houston Office

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Munsch Hardt announces the Firm's continued growth through the addition of two shareholders, Daniel D. Pipitone and Kenneth Wayne Bullock II, to the firm's Houston office.

Pipitone brings to the firm more than 25 years of maritime law experience representing individuals and companies on a broad spectrum of matters ranging from personal injury defense to maritime contract disputes, collision, allision and environmental issues. Pipitone has argued cases in the Texas Supreme Court that created the Texas law concerning the Search and Rescue Doctrine and the Primary Duty Doctrine. Most recently, he has focused on Department of Labor misclassification cases for his energy industry clients. Before joining Munsch Hardt, he served as Chairman of the Energy and Maritime Section for Houston's Chamberlain Hrdlicka.

"Joining Munsch Hardt was the right decision for me and more importantly, my clients. They will realize an immediate benefit through access to talent and depth of counsel who understand the Energy industry and are ready to serve them," said Pipitone.

Bullock's practice focuses primarily on energy and maritime matters. He has a history representing upstream and midstream energy clients in commercial litigation and personal injury defense, as well as cases involving Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) inspections and citations. Bullock also routinely handles matters under the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA) and concerning the allocation of risk in energy agreements.

"The addition of Pipitone and Bullock will firmly position Munsch Hardt to take advantage of the increased demands of the energy sector, especially in the Houston market," said Phil Appenzeller, CEO of Munsch Hardt. "We are honored to have them on our team."

Munsch Hardt's Energy and Environmental group is at the forefront of addressing and resolving the firm's clients' broad spectrum of energy-related needs and issues. The firm's clients include large energy companies, independent oil and gas producers, refiners, gas processors, oil field services companies, energy investors, wholesalers, purchasers, retailers and pipelines as well as landowners and royalty and mineral interest owners.

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