

LAURA A. MONTE AND JULIE M. JOHNSON JOIN HODGSON RUSS LLP

May 11, 2007

Hodgson Russ LLP is pleased to announce that Laura A. Monte has joined the firm as a partner in the Real Estate & Finance Practice Group and Julie M. Johnson has joined the firm as an associate in the Corporate & Securities Practice Group. Both attorneys practice out of Hodgson Russ's Buffalo office.

Ms. Monte concentrates her practice in financing and has extensive experience as counsel to lenders in a wide variety of commercial real estate and commercial lending transactions. She has represented lenders and borrowers in construction and permanent mortgage financing, term loans, revolving credits, letters of credit, industrial development agency projects, low-income tax credit projects, SBA-guaranteed financing (including 504 programs), hotel financing, and multistate transactions.

Ms. Johnson concentrates her practice in corporate and securities law, including mergers and acquisitions. Prior to joining Hodgson Russ, Ms. Johnson worked as an associate for firms in Chicago and Buffalo.

Hodgson Russ attorneys facilitate transactions around the world and in every substantive area of law, generally structuring multidisciplinary work teams to serve the specific, often complex, needs of our clients — public and privately held businesses, governmental entities, nonprofit institutions, and individuals. In addition to our Buffalo headquarters, Hodgson Russ (www.hodgsonruss.com) has offices in New York City, Albany, and Johnstown, New York; Boca Raton and Palm Beach, Florida; and Toronto, Ontario.

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