

HODGSON RUSS ANNOUNCES NEW PRESIDENT AND CEO GARY M. SCHOBER

July 22, 2005

Attorneys

Gary Schober

Hodgson Russ LLP announces that Gary M. Schober, Esq., has been elected president and chief executive officer of the Firm.

"This is an exciting time of growth and opportunity for Hodgson Russ, and I am honored to take on this important leadership role as the Firm, which was established in Buffalo nearly 200 years ago, continues to move forward," Mr. Schober said.

Mr. Schober, who has been with Hodgson Russ for more than 25 years, has a long tenure of diverse management responsibilities in the Firm. He has been a member of Hodgson Russ's Executive Committee with the Firm's past two presidents, Robert B. Conklin (2001-2005) and Dianne Bennett (1997-2001). He has participated in many vital management aspects of the Firm's strategic growth and success, including the Firm's 2002 purchase of the historic Guaranty Building in downtown Buffalo. Mr. Schober has also helped Hodgson Russ develop a significant economic impact on Western New York; Hodgson Russ now has more than 400 partners, attorneys, paralegals, and staff in its Buffalo headquarters.

As a member of the Executive Committee, Mr. Schober has been involved in key strategic decisions to expand the Firm in its other offices as well. Hodgson Russ recently added 21 attorneys to its New York City office; the Firm's office in Boca Raton, Florida, is near capacity and searching for additional office space; the Toronto office of Hodgson Russ has doubled in size; and the Albany office, which recently celebrated its 15th anniversary, has relocated to a new building and is adding new attorneys.

With more than 220 attorneys practicing in all major areas of law, Hodgson Russ is among the 200 largest law firms headquartered in the United States. It is one of approximately 100 firms in the country listed in America's Greatest Places to Work With a Law Degree. In June 2005, Hodgson Russ received the Carol S. Knox Family-Friendly Employer Award from the Capital District Women's Bar Association. The Firm, which was established in 1817 and is among the oldest law firms in the U.S., is the only law firm that can count two former U.S. presidents, Millard Fillmore and Grover Cleveland, among its alumni. Hodgson Russ has seven offices: Albany, Buffalo, and Johnstown, and two in New York City, New York; Boca Raton, Florida; and Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

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