

## Press Release

### Freeborn Elects Five Attorneys as New Partners

**CHICAGO – Jan. 6, 2014** – The Chicago-based law firm [Freeborn & Peters LLP](#) is pleased to announce the elevation of five of its attorneys to partner. [Edward W. Diffin III](#), [Devon J. Eggert](#), [John C. Hammerle](#), [Emily R. Schey](#) and [Gladys C. Zolna](#) were elected at the firm’s December 2013 Equity Partner meeting.

All of the attorneys previously were Associates with the Firm except for Mr. Diffin, who served as Senior Counsel.

“We are pleased to welcome Edward, Devon, John, Emily and Gladys to our partnership at the Firm,” said Michael J. Kelly, Co-Managing Partner of Freeborn & Peters. “Their skills, experience and contributions have earned them this promotion as we look forward to their continued success on behalf of our clients.”

A member of the Firm’s Litigation Practice Group and Insurance and Reinsurance Industry Group, Mr. Diffin focuses his practice on insurance and reinsurance arbitration and litigation. He primarily represents cedants and reinsurers in proceedings involving life, accident, health and property/casualty contracts. He has experience in all aspects of the dispute resolution process. Mr. Diffin earned his J.D. from the University of Chicago Law School and also has a B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Taylor University.

Mr. Eggert is a member of the Firm’s Bankruptcy and Financial Restructuring Practice Group. He has represented debtors, creditors’ committees, and secured and unsecured creditors in Chapter 11 proceedings and in out-of-court restructurings across the United States and abroad. Mr. Eggert also has represented trustees and other parties in numerous liquidation cases and in preference, fraudulent conveyance and other complex bankruptcy litigation. Mr. Eggert earned his J.D., *cum laude*, from the DePaul University College of Law. He also has a B.S. from Clemson University.

Mr. Hammerle is a member of the Firm’s Litigation and E-Discovery Practice Groups. His experience includes trial and appellate work in a wide array of state and federal commercial matters, including breach of contract, breach of fiduciary duty, fraud, trademark infringement, commercial mortgage foreclosures, insurance coverage disputes, and shareholder oppression suits for corporations as well as corporate officers, directors and shareholders. Mr. Hammerle also has experience in multiple areas of intellectual property law. He earned his J.D., *magna cum laude*, from DePaul University College of Law and his B.S., *cum laude*, from Butler University.

A member of the Firm’s Real Estate Practice Group, Ms. Schey concentrates her practice on all phases of real estate transactional work. She has been involved in a wide range of transactions, including the acquisition, financing, development, leasing and disposition of commercial real estate. Recently, she represented clients in connection with loan workouts, deed in lieu of foreclosure transactions and the repositioning of distressed real estate assets. Ms. Schey earned her J.D. from the University of Denver

College of Law. She has a B.A. from the University of Michigan.

Ms. Zolna is a member of the Firm's Corporate Practice Group, with in-depth experience and knowledge involving qualified retirement plans, health and welfare benefits, and executive compensation. She advises small and midsize businesses, as well as Fortune 500 companies in the design, implementation and administration of plans and individual arrangements, as well as drafting of plan documents and forms. She earned her J.D. from the University of Chicago and also has a B.S. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

#### **ABOUT FREEBORN & PETERS**

Freeborn & Peters LLP is a full-service law firm, headquartered in Chicago, with international capabilities. Freeborn is always looking ahead and seeking to find better ways to serve its clients. It takes a proactive approach to ensure its clients are more informed, prepared and able to achieve greater success – not just now, but also in the future. While the firm serves clients across a very broad range of sectors, it has also pioneered an interdisciplinary approach that serves the specific needs of targeted industries, including food, transportation, private equity and venture capital and insurance and reinsurance.

Freeborn is a firm that genuinely lives up to its core values of integrity, caring, effectiveness, teamwork, and commitment, and embodies them through high standards of client service and responsive action. Its lawyers build close and lasting relationships with clients and are driven to help them achieve their legal and business objectives.

For more information, please visit [www.freeborn.com](http://www.freeborn.com).

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