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**Robinson & Cole Announces Partner Promotions**

**HARTFORD, CT** (December 6, 2011) – Robinson & Cole LLP is pleased to announce the election of four attorneys to partner: William J. Egan, Peter E. Strniste Jr., Melissa Sullivan, and Jeffrey J. White, effective January 1, 2012.

“Bill, Peter, Melissa, and Jeff have all made remarkable contributions to Robinson & Cole and to our clients,” said John B. Lynch Jr., managing partner of the firm. “We are proud to recognize these contributions and welcome them as partners in the firm. We expect they will each make significant contributions in the future.”

**William J. Egan**

Mr. Egan shares his commercial litigation and business law experience with a sophisticated market of individuals and companies. He has been involved with contract disputes, banking and regulatory matters, information and technology litigation, construction litigation, and commercial leasing litigation. He has experience in numerous state and federal courts, arbitration proceedings, and mediations as well as trial experience at the federal and state levels. In addition to his litigation practice, Mr. Egan counsels businesses and individuals on litigation exposure for contracts, leasing, licensing, vendor and credit agreements, commercial loan structuring and workouts, and related matters.

Mr. Egan, a resident of Simsbury, Connecticut, received his J.D. from the University of Connecticut School of Law and his B.A. in history from Harvard University. He is admitted to practice in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

**Peter E. Strniste Jr.**

Mr. Strniste dedicates his practice to construction and surety litigation, contract drafting, and negotiation. He has represented clients in both state and federal courts in a wide variety of litigation matters as well as in arbitrations and mediations. Mr. Strniste frequently represents construction managers and trade contractors and counsels them regarding claims for breach of contract, negligence of design, insurance disputes, affirmative delays, impacts and inefficiency claims, and wrongful termination and claims against payment and performance bonds on public and private projects. Mr. Strniste has also represented clients in prosecuting and defending claims for unfair trade practices and equitable causes of action and has sought remedies such as injunctions, actions to quiet title, and the foreclosure of mechanic’s liens and other security instruments.

Mr. Strniste is included on the Connecticut *Super Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> Rising Star list in the area of Construction Litigation (*Super Lawyers* is a registered trademark of Key Professional Media, Inc.). A resident of Avon, Connecticut, he received his J.D. from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law and his B.S. from Old Dominion University. Mr. Strniste is admitted to practice in Connecticut state and federal courts and the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York.

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280 Trumbull Street, Hartford, CT 06103

**Melissa Sullivan**

Melissa Sullivan is a member of Robinson & Cole's Litigation Section in the Stamford office. Her litigation experience focuses primarily on large loss property subrogation, products liability defense, and commercial litigation. Ms. Sullivan has pursued and defended against a wide range of claims arising out of casualties such as fires, explosions, and sprinkler and other equipment failures. Her products liability experience stems from her defense of product manufacturers and component part manufacturers. Ms. Sullivan's commercial litigation experience stems from her representation of large and small companies engaged in a variety of business disputes, including claims of business torts, commercial contract disputes, employment issues, class actions, antitrust, and unfair trade practices, as well as disputes between manufacturers, vendors, and distributors.

Ms. Sullivan is an active member of the National Association of Subrogation Professionals. She serves as Property Track cochair of its National Conference; sits on the editorial board of its national publication, *Subrogator*; and is a cochair of its New England Regional Committee. She has also been listed as a Rising Star in Connecticut *Super Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> in the area of Business Litigation since 2010 (*Super Lawyers* is a registered trademark of Key Professional Media, Inc.). Ms. Sullivan, a resident of Fairfield, Connecticut, received her J.D. from Quinnipiac University School of Law and her B.A. from New York University. She is admitted to practice in Connecticut, New York, and the District of Columbia.

**Jeffrey J. White**

Mr. White is a member of the firm's Appellate Group and has been involved in over 30 appeals. He has argued appeals before the Connecticut Supreme and Appellate Courts and has handled appeals in several federal and state appellate courts. Mr. White's appellate experience has run the gamut of substantive areas, including land use, business litigation, property insurance, constitutional law, criminal law, health law, tax, and intellectual property. He has tried matters to verdict in state and federal courts. His trial practice encompasses a wide variety of commercial and products liability litigation, with an emphasis on matters involving manufacturers. Mr. White has handled products liability cases, originating in the United States, Canada, and abroad, involving a range of industries, including aerospace, consumer products, energy, food and beverage, and recreational products.

Mr. White has been included in the New England *Super Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> Rising Star list in the area of Appellate Law (*Super Lawyers* is a registered trademark of Key Professional Media, Inc.) since 2009. In 2011, he received the Judge Maxwell Heiman Memorial Award at the 228th Annual Meeting of the Hartford County Bar Association. He has written more than 30 articles and four book chapters and has frequently presented on a variety of issues, including in the areas of appellate advocacy and products liability. A resident of Simsbury, Connecticut, Mr. White received his J.D., with honors, from the University of Connecticut School of Law and his B.A. from The College of the Holy Cross. He is admitted to practice in the State of Connecticut; the Supreme Court of the United States; the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit; the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit; the U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut; the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York; and the U.S. District Court for the Western District of New York.

**More about Robinson & Cole LLP**

Robinson & Cole is an Am Law 200 firm with approximately 225 lawyers in nine offices serving regional, national, and international clients, from start-ups to Fortune 500 companies. Since 1845, Robinson & Cole has expanded to meet the changing needs of clients. The firm represents corporate, governmental, and nonprofit entities, as well as individual clients, in a wide range of matters, including corporate; business and insurance litigation; tax and tax-exempt; finance; public finance; land use, environmental and utilities, and real estate; health law; labor, employment, and benefits; intellectual property and technology; and government relations. Visit [www.rc.com](http://www.rc.com).

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