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**Robinson & Cole Announces 2013 Partner Promotions**

**HARTFORD, CT** (January 17, 2013) –Robinson & Cole is pleased to announce the election of four attorneys to partner: Stephen E. Cooper, Nuala E. Droney, Debbie J. Gezon, and Eugene P. Murphy, effective January 1, 2013.

“Congratulations to Stephen, Nuala, Debbie, and Gene,” said John B. Lynch Jr., managing partner of the firm. “The new partners demonstrate the scope of our practices in terms of practice area (business transactions, business litigation, real estate, and insurance) as well as geography (Stamford and Hartford, Connecticut; Los Angeles, California; and Sarasota, Florida).”

**[Nuala E. Droney](#)**

Ms. Droney is a member of the firm’s Litigation Section, resident in the firm’s Hartford, Connecticut, office, focusing her practice on complex litigation in federal courts, including antitrust, patent, trade secret, trademark, unfair trade practices, fraud, and contract disputes. She maintains both a civil practice and a criminal practice, including representation of clients in government and internal investigations. Through the Criminal Justice Act Training Panel, she has represented indigent federal defendants in Department of Justice investigations and prosecutions. Ms. Droney recently began a pilot program in Connecticut state court to provide free legal services to victims of domestic violence.

By appointment of Governor Dannel P. Malloy, Ms. Droney serves on the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority’s Board of Directors. For the past three years, Connecticut *Super Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> has named her a Rising Star in Business Litigation (*Super Lawyers* is a registered trademark of Key Professional Media, Inc.). A resident of West Hartford, Connecticut, Ms. Droney received her J.D. from the University of Virginia School of Law and her B.A., *magna cum laude*, in history from Yale University. She is admitted to practice in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

**[Stephen E. Cooper](#)**

Mr. Cooper is resident in the firm’s Stamford, Connecticut, office. His practice in the firm’s Business Section involves representing large and small clients in all aspects of corporate and transactional law, including venture capital and private equity financings, debt financings, recapitalizations, mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, securities law compliance, and general corporate matters. He is a member of the firm’s Emerging Companies, Private Equity, and Venture Capital Practice Group. He represents fast growth companies in connection with their formation, employee compensation arrangements, debt and equity financings, commercial contracts, and other general corporate matters.

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A resident of Easton, Connecticut, Mr. Cooper received his J.D., with honors, from The George Washington University Law School and his B.A. in political science from Emory University. He was listed as a Rising Star in Connecticut *Super Lawyers*<sup>®</sup> in the area of Business/Corporate Law in 2011 (*Super Lawyers* is a registered trademark of Key Professional Media, Inc.). Mr. Cooper is admitted to practice in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

**Debbie J. Gezon**

Ms. Gezon is resident in the firm's Los Angeles office and concentrates her practice in the areas of real estate and real estate finance. She has extensive experience in several types of real estate transactions, including mortgage financings for affordable housing transactions, tax-exempt bond transactions, and tax credit transactions. Ms. Gezon has worked as in-house counsel for a secondary mortgage lender and for a privately held company that operates a national chain of theatres and significant real estate holdings.

Prior to moving her practice to real estate finance, Ms. Gezon spent several years as a commercial bankruptcy lawyer. She received her J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School and her B.A., *magna cum laude*, from Hope College. She is admitted to practice in California and Illinois. Ms. Gezon resides in Manhattan Beach, California.

**Eugene P. Murphy**

Mr. Murphy concentrates his practice in liability and property insurance coverage matters, as well as products liability defense. He has focused on the evaluation, litigation, and resolution of a diverse range of coverage disputes, including mediations, arbitrations, and trials. In addition to his work in Florida, he has appeared before various state and federal courts throughout the country.

Mr. Murphy resides in Sarasota, Florida, and received his J.D. from Fordham University School of Law, his LL.M. from Pace University, and his B.A. in political science from Queens College. He is admitted to practice in Connecticut, Florida, and 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. For more information, please visit [www.rc.com](http://www.rc.com).

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