



**THREE FORMER WOLFBLOCK ATTORNEYS
JOIN FRIEDMAN SCHUMAN OF JENKINTOWN;**

**FIRM NOW HAS ONE OF THE LEADING
FINANCIAL SERVICES GROUPS IN PHILADELPHIA AREA**

Jenkintown, Pa, May 7 –Three key partners of the financial services group of the former WolfBlock law firm have joined the Jenkintown firm of Friedman Schuman. The move has been described as a “major coup” for the suburban firm and one that will help it grow and more effectively compete against its center city rivals, according to Managing Partner Kerry Schuman.

Lawrence R. Lesser, David E. Stern and Elizabeth A. Grzywacz have all joined Friedman Schuman, which now employs 21 attorneys, making it one of the fastest growing suburban law firms in the area.

“This is a perfect marriage for us and it significantly changes the complexion of our firm, repositioning us even more as a leader,” said Schuman. “We will now be providing legal services to many of the banks and financial institutions in our area. This move right now might seem contrarian due to the economy. However, the initial reaction from this market has been phenomenal because clients will be getting the highest level of quality legal service at far more competitive pricing.”

Lesser, who is the most senior of the three former WolfBlock partners and co-chair of its financial service department, is best known for his representation of financial institutions, including many of the banks in the area. He also represents a number of private equity funds operated under the Capital Partners umbrella led by local financier Ira Lupert.

Before joining WolfBlock, Lesser was founding partner of the Montgomery County law firm of Lesser & Kaplin, which concentrated in financial services.

“My career has come full circle. I am excited to return to my suburban roots,” said Lesser.

“We have had the utmost respect for Larry,” said Senior Partner Peter Friedman. “Now that he is part of our team, he has changed the dynamic of the firm and greatly raised the energy level in the office.”

“David, Elizabeth and I had two choices on where to bring our expertise,” said Lesser. “We could have gone to either a large or medium sized firm. At Friedman

Schuman we found the intimacy and competitiveness of a medium sized firm with the sophisticated services of larger firms. They are very strong already in banking, real estate and business transaction, as well as other areas such as litigation and wealth management.”

Stern, who has worked with Lesser for more than 25 years at WolfBlock and Lesser & Kaplin, concentrates his practice in the areas of commercial loan workouts, bankruptcy, creditors’ remedies and commercial litigation on behalf of banks and financial institutions.

Grzywacz represents banks, commercial finance companies, private investment groups, mezzanine funds, second lien funds and other non-bank lenders. She also has substantial workout experience. Prior to joining WolfBlock, she was clerk to Hon. Stephen S. Stripp, US Bankruptcy Court for the District of New Jersey.

Grzywacz and Stern come to Friedman Schuman as shareholders and Lesser will serve as “Of Counsel” – all on a full-time basis.

“We are immensely proud to be able to bring such a strong financial services team to our firm in such a timely fashion,” said Schuman. “We are also grateful to Brian M. Levinson, managing partner of the Alevistar Group, LLC who helped us in this endeavor.”

“This is another big step in our continuing plan for growth,” said Schuman. To accommodate growth, the firm recently relocated its headquarters to larger space at 101 Greenwood Avenue across from the Jenkintown train station. With this move, the firm nearly doubled its previous space acquiring more than 16,000 square feet.

“Over the past three years we have seen significant increases in revenues annually,” said Schuman. “Revenues grew more than 20 percent per year from 2006 through 2008. Projections for this year are very optimistic. Our goal is to continue this impressive trend and to employ more than 30 lawyers in the near future,” he said.

Friedman Schuman P.C. was founded in 1988 by two attorneys, concentrating primarily on business law. Over the years, it has transformed into a regional law firm to better serve the changing needs of its client base. Today, the firm concentrates in financial services; real estate law and transactions; corporate law; municipal law; personal injury and commercial litigation; business law; banking and estate administration; wealth management and estate administration; and trademark and copyright registration. Friedman Schuman’s attorneys are licensed to practice in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Florida. For further information visit www.fsalaw.com.

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