



Two Leading Law Firms to Join Forces

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Ellenoff Grossman & Schole LLP and Weinstein Smith LLP

New York, N.Y. (April 14, 2011)—*Ellenoff Grossman & Schole LLP* and *Weinstein Smith LLP* are pleased to announce that the attorneys of *Weinstein Smith LLP* will be joining Ellenoff Grossman & Schole LLP effective as of May 1, 2011. **Weinstein Smith** is nationally recognized as one of the leading firms representing investment banks and institutional investors in private equity transactions of all types, including registered direct and confidentially marketed public offerings (CMPO) transactions, PIPES (private investment in public equities) and equity lines of credit, as well as more traditional underwritten public offerings.

In 2010, Weinstein Smith was ranked #1 in the representation of placement agents in private and registered equity transactions and #5 representing investors in private and registered equity transactions. At the same time, Ellenoff Grossman & Schole was the only law firm in the U.S. with fewer than 100 lawyers to achieve a top 25 ranking for IPOs. Ellenoff Grossman & Schole also was ranked #1 in SPAC IPOs (special purpose acquisition corporations) and top 20 in PIPEs. Ellenoff Grossman & Schole currently represents almost 40 SEC registered publicly-traded companies; more than 10 of which are Chinese. The combination of the two firms will further consolidate Ellenoff Grossman & Schole's leadership in alternative and innovative financing programs for mid/small cap public companies, as well as its representation of the investment banks catering to this sector of the capital markets.

Joseph A. Smith, the Managing Partner and Co-Founder of Weinstein Smith, will join Ellenoff Grossman & Schole's Executive Management Committee. Mr. Smith is a nationally recognized corporate finance lawyer who leads Weinstein Smith's securities practice group. Prior to founding Weinstein Smith, Mr. Smith spent two years as a Managing Director and registered principal with Ladenburg Thalmann & Co. Inc., where he structured and placed PIPE transactions and registered offerings with the leading investment banking team in that business at that time. The other partners joining Ellenoff Grossman & Schole include **Eric Weinstein, Peter Cohen, Saul H. Finkelstein, Scott Miller, Yong Hak Kim, Michael Nertney** and **Robert Charron**. Biographies and more information on the practice areas of the Weinstein Smith attorneys joining Ellenoff Grossman & Schole can be found either on Ellenoff Grossman & Schole's website at www.egsllp.com or Weinstein Smith's website at www.weinsteinsmith.com.

Ellenoff Grossman & Schole LLP is a New York City-based law firm offering its clients legal services in a broad range of business related matters. Founded in 1992, the Firm specializes in many areas of commercial law. After the expansion of the firm is complete, Ellenoff Grossman & Schole LLP will consist of more than 50 lawyers, practicing in the following areas: Corporate and Securities, Real Estate, Litigation, Intellectual Property, Broker-Dealer Regulation, Tax, ERISA and Trusts and Estates.