

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Gordon Arata Expands in Texas With New Member and Practice

New Orleans, LA - Gordon Arata McCollam Duplantis & Eagan, LLC expands its practice offerings in Texas with the addition of Courtney S. Lauer as a member in the Houston office. The addition of Ms. Lauer to the office gives the Firm a greater ability to service its clients in Texas in the areas of bankruptcy and restructuring, a practice that the Firm has a great deal of experience in and for which it was recently recognized in Louisiana by *Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business*.

Ms. Lauer's practice involves all aspects of restructuring and reorganization including representation of creditors, secured lenders, purchasers of assets, and debtors and advising lenders and borrowers in restructuring transactions. Her experience includes representation of clients regarding a broad array of Chapter 11 issues, including the preparation and negotiation of prenegotiated, prepackaged, and traditional Chapter 11 plans, bankruptcy acquisitions, executory contracts and unexpired real property leases, debtor in possession financing, cash collateral issues, and Chapter 11 plan confirmation issues. Prior to joining Gordon Arata, Ms. Lauer was Counsel in the Restructuring and Reorganization practice of Vinson & Elkins, LLP's Houston office. She also served as a judicial clerk to The Honorable Harlin D. Hale, U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Texas (2003-04); The Honorable A. David Kahn, United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Georgia (1999-2000); and The Honorable Louis M. Phillips, United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Louisiana (1994-95).

Ms. Lauer received her J.D. from Louisiana State University in 1994, where she was Managing Editor of the *Louisiana Law Review* and a member of the Order of the Coif. She also received her B.A. from Louisiana State University in 1990.

"The addition of Courtney to the Houston office addresses a strategic need for the Firm to have a physical presence in Texas in an area of practice that is one of the Firm's great strengths," said Tim Eagan, Gordon Arata Managing Member. "Courtney joins our outstanding bankruptcy practice group that includes former bankruptcy judges Louis Phillips, in the Baton Rouge office, and Gerald Schiff, in the Lafayette office. We are excited about this move and the expanded capabilities of the Firm to better serve our clients in Texas."

About Gordon Arata

Gordon Arata McCollam Duplantis & Eagan, LLC has over 65 attorneys in three Louisiana offices in New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Lafayette and an office in Houston, Texas. Whether litigation or transactions, the Firm's lawyers serve clients locally, regionally, and nationally, and provide services across a wide range of industries aligned with the Firm's offices along the Gulf Coast. The Firm is committed to achieving the best possible results and to fostering relationships with clients.

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