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Burke, Williams & Sorensen Names Three New Owners

Los Angeles, January 11, 2017: Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP, announced that it has named 3 new owners from its partnership ranks, effective January 1, 2017. The new owners are Gregory R. Aker (Oakland), Susan E. Bloch (Oakland), and Anna C. Shimko (San Francisco). Burke's new owners reflect Burke's strong track record for diversity and inclusion, and they represent clients throughout California in the areas of Public Law, Business, Real Estate, Affordable Housing, Construction, Litigation, and Environmental, Land Use and Natural Resources. Of the three new partners, two are women.

"Congratulations to this group of talented, engaged, and ambitious attorneys who are well prepared to lead us on this exciting journey ahead. I know their collective expertise will serve both the firm and our clients well," said Burke's Managing Partner, John J. Welsh.

Gregory R. Aker

Greg Aker specializes in the litigation and trial of complex business disputes. During his more than thirty years as an attorney, Mr. Aker's litigation practice has included almost every major area of the law. Mr. Aker has represented clients in litigation involving commercial contract disputes, state and federal securities law, unfair competition, trade secrets, commercial finance, real estate matters, landlord/tenant disputes, anti-SLAPP litigation, wrongful termination, and employment. Mr. Aker has handled major litigation involving a variety of construction projects nationwide, including courthouses, power plants, condominium developments, and hotels. In addition to trials and arbitration, Mr. Aker has handled appeals in the California Court of Appeal and the Ninth Circuit.

Susan E. Bloch

Susan Bloch specializes in economic development, transactional real estate matters, and affordable housing. Ms. Bloch represents public agencies and private and non-profit developers in transactions involving the acquisition, development, financing, leasing and sale of residential, commercial and industrial properties, and the development and implementation of affordable housing policies and programs. Ms. Bloch has helped dozens of California jurisdictions navigate the post-redevelopment landscape and move forward to implement innovative programs, policies and financing tools for affordable housing and community development.

Anna C. Shimko

Anna Shimko is Chair of Burke’s Real Estate and Business Practice Group. She focuses her practice on all areas of land use, real estate development, and environmental law, representing both public agencies and private landowners and developers in administrative and court proceedings. Ms. Shimko has particular expertise in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). She works closely with project proponents, public agencies, and environmental consultants on preparing and defending CEQA and NEPA documents and securing federal, state, and local approvals for complex projects such as hospitals, resorts, retailers, apartments and condominiums, quarries, casinos, entertainment venues, water supply projects, and large mixed-use projects.

For ninety years, Burke, Williams & Sorensen, LLP has been one of California’s leading law firms, and now has nine offices located throughout California. The firm represents a sophisticated client base – including public agencies and private business entities – on complex transactional, litigation and regulatory matters. For more information, visit www.bwslaw.com.