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Peter Haviland Named Managing Partner of Ballard Spahr's Los Angeles Office

LOS ANGELES (June 15, 2015) – Peter L. Haviland, an accomplished civil trial lawyer, will become Managing Partner of Ballard Spahr's Los Angeles office effective July 1, firm Chair Mark Stewart announced today.

Mr. Haviland succeeds Naomi Young, who will maintain her active litigation practice at the firm. She advises employers in labor and employment matters and represents clients in individual, multi-plaintiff, and class-based employment discrimination; wrongful discharge; and wage and hour litigation. She has led the Los Angeles office since 2011.

"Peter was a great addition to our litigation practice and the Los Angeles office when he joined the firm in early 2014," Mr. Stewart said. "He is a champion for diversity, is recognized as a leader in the legal profession and will make an excellent managing partner as the office continues gaining stature in the highly competitive California market."

Mr. Haviland recently was named one of *Savoy Magazine's* "Most Influential Black Lawyers for 2015."

"I am delighted Peter is assuming the leadership role for the Los Angeles office," said Ms. Young. "He is highly regarded by colleagues and firm clients, and is a well-respected member of our Los Angeles legal community. I very much look forward to working with Peter as we continue to grow our Los Angeles office and expand the firm's presence in the West."

Lawyers in the Los Angeles office represent clients in the areas of commercial litigation, intellectual property, consumer financial services, energy, labor and employment, and employee benefits and executive compensation.

“I am pleased to be assuming leadership at a time when the Los Angeles office is growing and adding resources in a variety of practice groups,” said Mr. Haviland. “We are building a multicultural firm where diversity is not a word but a reality. Naomi Young, one of the few African-American women to lead a major law firm office, was one of the reasons I joined Ballard, and we will continue to work closely together.”

Ballard Spahr recently was named a national leader in percentage of women equity partners, and earlier this year was named one of the top 100 law firms in the nation for female attorneys by *Law360*.

“I’m also excited that Tom Sager, former General Counsel at DuPont and a pioneer in promoting diversity in major law firms and corporate law departments, has recently joined Ballard and has committed, among other things, to helping us expand our presence in California,” Mr. Haviland continued. “Lawyers interested in our experiment to change the face and the dynamics of big firm practice at the highest level are encouraged to join us.”

About Ballard Spahr

Ballard Spahr LLP, a national law firm with more than 500 lawyers in 14 offices in the United States, provides a range of services in litigation, business and finance, real estate, intellectual property, and public finance. Our clients include Fortune 500 companies, financial institutions, life sciences and technology companies, health systems, investors and developers, government agencies and sponsored enterprises, educational institutions, and nonprofit organizations. The firm combines a national scope of practice with strong regional market knowledge. For more information, please visit www.ballardspahr.com.

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