

Baker Donelson Adds Tax Expert In Birmingham

By **Matthew Villmer**

Law360, New York (November 21, 2013, 7:52 PM ET) -- Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz PC announced Wednesday the addition of attorney Ross Cohen as of counsel to boost the firm's tax department and corporate/mergers and acquisitions group in Birmingham, Ala.

Cohen officially joined the firm on Nov. 11, moving from Birmingham-based firm Haskell Slaughter & Young LLC, and he will bring his experience as a tax practitioner and certified public accountant to his new firm.

"I'm excited to join Baker Donelson — the firm's practice areas fit perfectly with mine," Cohen said. "I look forward to working with my section to expand the firm's practice."

Cohen represents clients in the areas of taxation and tax planning, wealth-transfer planning, estate planning, asset protection planning, business organizations, corporate law and mergers and acquisitions.

In particular, he assists startup and established businesses with tax planning advice, executive compensation matters, tax-free structuring and mergers and acquisitions, and he represents clients before the Internal Revenue Service and state tax authorities.

"The depth and breadth of Mr. Cohen's experience in the areas of business organization, corporate law, mergers and acquisitions and all areas of taxation will complement the ever growing business, transactional and tax practice of the Firm's Birmingham Office," said Alton Bayard, Baker Donelson's tax department chairman.

Cohen helps clients in a variety of industries, including real estate, banking, health care, personnel services and manufacturing, among others. Additionally, he consults on tax matters involving public finance transactions, and he has been involved in the establishment of nonprofit corporations and charitable organizations.

Cohen also has experience with estate planning and family tax matters. He drafts prenuptial agreements, trusts, business succession documents, and he prepares private foundations and family investment vehicles.

After becoming a CPA in 1980, Cohen worked for many years with Coopers & Lybrand, now known as PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Cohen has been listed in Alabama Super Lawyers since 2010 and in Best Lawyers in America in the areas of tax law and trusts and estates since 2002, and he is an accredited estate planner. He also served as president of the Birmingham Estate Planning Council and the Birmingham Tax Forum.

Cohen received his B.S. in accounting and M.T.A. from the University of Alabama. He also earned his J.D. and LL.M. in taxation from University of Alabama School of Law.

--Editing by Christine Chun.

All Content © 2003-2013, Portfolio Media, Inc.