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NEWS RELEASES

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Husch Blackwell Names Jeff Simon New Kansas City Office Managing Partner

Husch Blackwell announced that Jeff Simon has been selected as the new Kansas City Office Managing Partner. Ben Mann, who held the role for the past nine years, will return to full-time practice in the firm's Technology, Manufacturing and Transportation group, focusing on insolvency and commercial bankruptcy matters.

"Jeff Simon is a long-time friend and partner, and I am delighted and proud to announce his appointment as Kansas City Office Managing Partner," said Maurice Watson, Husch Blackwell Chairman. "Jeff started his legal career in Kansas City more than 25 years ago and has served in several important community leadership roles. He is highly respected for his exceptional client service and his commitment to the community."

A partner in the firm's Technology, Manufacturing and Transportation group, Simon leads the group's Rail industry efforts and also serves on the firm's Partner Board. His civic leadership includes currently serving on the board of directors of the Kansas City Downtown Council and formerly serving as president of the Kansas City Board of Police Commissioners and chair of the Kansas City Liquor Control Board of Review.

"Under Ben's leadership, the Kansas City office has grown and changed substantially over the past nine years," said Simon. "Ben's contributions to the firm and to the Kansas City community are phenomenal. I am grateful for his outstanding leadership."

"I've enjoyed serving the firm in this role," said Mann. "I was fortunate to have this position as the firm experienced significant growth and transformed itself

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into industry units in order to better serve our clients. I have no doubt that Jeff will perpetuate the firm's growth and help bring its industry focus to fruition."