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Press Release

Akerman Continues Dallas Expansion with Litigator Bryce Benson

April 5, 2016

Akerman LLP, a top 100 U.S. law firm serving clients across the Americas, has further expanded its Dallas office with securities and commercial litigation partner <u>Bryce Benson</u> in the Litigation Practice Group. He joins Akerman's national bench of trial lawyers and enhances the firm's core strengths in the financial services sector.

"Bryce is an experienced litigator, whose strong financial sector focus extends Akerman's capabilities in complex disputes at the federal and state level," said <u>Lawrence Rochefort</u>, Litigation Practice Group Chair. "His practice enhances our ability to serve clients with securities and commercial litigation needs and adds important depth to our team in Dallas and nationally."

Benson's practice focuses on securities litigation, including the representation of broker-dealers in Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) arbitrations, regulatory investigations and enforcement proceedings. He also has substantial experience litigating complex commercial cases and business disputes, including cases involving claims for breach of contract, fraud, breach of fiduciary duty, negligent misrepresentation, and other business torts in state court, federal court and in arbitration proceedings. Benson represents Fortune 500 corporations, mid-size companies and individuals in a variety of industries, including financial services, energy, health care, technology

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and manufacturing.

Benson joins Akerman's Dallas office after the team recently welcomed bankruptcy and restructuring partners John Mitchell and <u>David Parham</u>.

About Akerman LLP

Akerman LLP is a leading transactions and trial law firm known for its core strengths in middle market M&A, within the financial services and real estate industries, and for a diverse Latin America practice. With more than 600 lawyers and government affairs professionals and a network of 20 offices, it is ranked among the top 100 law firms in the United States by *The American Lawyer* (2015). Akerman also is ranked among the top 50 law firms for diversity in *The American Lawyer*'s Diversity Scorecard (2015).

Akerman's Litigation Practice Group has vast experience in a wide range of civil and criminal litigation, including class action defense, securities and corporate litigation, banking, white collar crime and government investigations, insurance, and real estate. The Litigation team is recognized nationally by *U.S. News - Best Lawyers* in several categories including Commercial Litigation and Appellate.