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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ATTORNEY ALLEGES THAT HE WAS TERMINATED BY LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH BECAUSE HE COMPLIED WITH HIS FIDUCIARY DUTY TO COMMUNICATE WITH HIS CLIENTS

Case: Gary L. Effron vs. Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP, American International Group, Inc., et al. Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 358352

On September 12, 2006, the law firm of Schonbrun DeSimone Seplow Harris & Hoffman, LLP filed a Los Angeles Superior Court lawsuit on behalf of attorney Gary Effron against his former employer, Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith ("LBBS") as well as AIG and AIG Technical Services, Inc. (collectively "AIG"). The Plaintiff, Mr. Effron, was hired by LBBS in 1985 and was subsequently given the title "non-equity partner."

In his Complaint, Mr. Effron alleges that after almost 20 years of employment, he was wrongfully terminated from his position with the law firm after a recently hired AIG claims adjuster complained to LBBS about the fact that Mr. Effron had notified his client insureds regarding AIG's trial preparation instructions. The Complaint alleges that LBBS wrongfully terminated Mr. Effron in violation of public policy and that AIG wrongfully interfered with Mr. Effron's contractual relations and prospective economic advantage. Mr. Effron's complaint includes claims for age discrimination and retaliation in violation of the California Fair Employment & Housing Act and also seeks declaratory relief on the issue of whether as a "non-equity partner," Mr. Effron was actually an employee of LBBS.

Mr. Effron's counsel, Michael D. Seplow, stated, "The Rules of Professional Conduct require an attorney to keep his clients informed of important developments regarding their cases. In addition, where an attorney has been hired by an insurance company to defend its insured, the attorney's primary duty is towards the insured, not the insurance company. Mr. Effron's case addresses these important issues and we look forward to vindicating Mr. Effron's rights."

Gary Effron is a graduate of the University of California, Hastings College of the Law and has practiced law for thirty-eight years.

For more information contact:

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The Complaint as filed will be posted on the SDSHH website: www.sdshh.com and may be obtained from K. Arianne Jordan at KAJordan@sdshh.com.