



Wagner Law Group Adds Steve Wilkes

San Francisco, March 19, 2012 – [Marcia Wagner](#), the Managing Director of [The Wagner Law Group](#), announced that [Stephen Wilkes](#) has joined the law firm opening their San Francisco office. In addition to the flagship office in Boston, The Wagner Law Group also has offices in New York and Florida with clients in over 40 states and several foreign countries. “We can better serve our national and international clientele with four offices around the country,” says Ms. Wagner. “We are excited to continue growing and expanding our areas of expertise, as well as our geographic reach, through the hiring of exceptional attorneys like Steve Wilkes, who are recognized for their stellar credentials and in-depth experience.”

Mr. Wilkes has over 30 years of experience in employee benefits, related securities law and general financial services. Wilkes joins The Wagner Law Group from Drinker, Biddle & Reath LLC. “I am very excited to work with The Wagner Law Group,” he says. “My focus will continue to be on a broad range of employee benefits, ERISA and related banking and federal securities law matters, including Title I fiduciary matters.” As regulations increase their coverage of retirement plans and investments, issues such as fiduciary liability, disclosure requirements and prohibited transactions become even more important.

With new sets of fee disclosure regulations taking effect on July 1st and August 31st, Mr. Wilkes expects to see a lot of matters requiring the firm’s legal counsel and insight. “These DOL regulations, known as 408(b)(2) and 404(a)(5), represent some of the more significant changes to hit the employee benefits industry since the governing laws of ERISA were enacted in 1974,” he says. “Service providers and plan sponsors will need to make appropriate and timely disclosures. Otherwise, there will be a lot of unhappy people, because the consequences of failure are rather severe.” Wilkes works with financial service providers as well as plan sponsors in navigating complicated ERISA regulations and, most recently, deciphering the DOL’s fee disclosure rules.

The Wagner Law Group, founded in 1996, has 19 attorneys in four offices. The Firm specializes in ERISA, employee benefits and executive compensation, estate planning and administration, and employment, labor and human resources law. Clients, which vary in size from sole proprietors to publicly-traded multistate and multinationals, include nonprofit entities and for-profit companies in nearly every industry.