

PirkeyBarber Announces New Partner and Associate

Pirkey Barber LLP is pleased to announce the addition of Susan J. Hightower as its latest partner in the Austin-based law firm effective Jan. 1, 2010, and Jered Matthyse as its newest associate beginning this month.

Hightower, a senior associate with the firm since its founding in 2006, brings extensive experience in trademark law with a focus on litigation and appellate work.

Recently, Hightower co-authored an amicus brief in the case *In re Bose* and argued as amicus on behalf of the American Intellectual Property Law Association before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. The case resulted in a revision to the trademark fraud standard, significantly impacting future trademark litigation.

Prior to the formation of PirkeyBarber, Hightower practiced for five years at Fulbright & Jaworski LLP, gaining experience in trademark disputes and a variety of other litigation matters. She also served as a judicial clerk to Judge Jacques L. Wiener, Jr. of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit in New Orleans.

Hightower earned her J.D. with distinction from Stanford Law School, where she was an editor of the Stanford Law Review. Prior to law school, Hightower earned a master's degree in Journalism from The University of Texas at Austin and worked as a journalist, most notably as a reporter and editor for The Associated Press for nearly six years. Hightower is a member of the International Trademark Association, which she serves as a member of the International Amicus Committee; the American Intellectual Property Law Association; the Bar Association of the Fifth Federal Circuit; the State Bar of Texas Intellectual Property Law Section; the Austin Intellectual Property Law Association; and the board of the Austin College Alumni "L" (Lawyers') Association.

Matthyse served as a law clerk for two years for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit, where he drafted and presented bench memoranda and judicial opinions.

He received his J.D. with high honors from The George Washington University Law School, where he served as executive managing editor for the International Law Review and was a member of the National Order of the Coif. Matthyse also earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and History with high distinction from The University of Iowa.

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