CAPES SOKOL ANNOUNCES HOEPLINGER AS NEW SHAREHOLDER

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The law firm of Capes Sokol is pleased to announce that <u>Stephen M. Hoeplinger</u> has been elected a Shareholder of the firm.

"Steve has been a key contributor to our Litigation practice since joining Capes Sokol," said <u>Amy L. Fehr</u>, Chair of the <u>Litigation Practice Group</u>. "He is an outstanding litigator with exceptional judgment and a deep commitment to client service. His leadership, legal acumen, and record of strategic results make him a valuable firm partner."

Steve has a diverse legal background representing both businesses and individuals in complex commercial, real estate, employment, and civil litigation matters. He approaches each case with a focus on understanding clients' goals and tailoring aggressive, yet efficient strategies designed to achieve favorable outcomes. Steve's experience includes representing businesses in high stakes "bet the company" lawsuits, successfully defending eight-figure class actions, obtaining judgments for consumers in fraud claims, and defending individuals against creditor claims.

Before joining Capes Sokol, Steve served as an Assistant Attorney General at the Missouri Attorney General's Office, where he litigated consumer protection, employment, and civil rights matters in

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both state and federal courts.

Steve's community involvement includes serving on the Board of Directors of Assisi House, a non-profit dedicated to providing housing to marginalized individuals in the St. Louis area. He has also provided pro bono legal representation in immigration matters, including deportation hearings, asylum cases, and naturalization benefits.

Steve earned his J.D., cum laude, from Washington University School of Law in 2009 and a B.A. in Film, Television and Theatre and a B.A. in Political Science from the University of Notre Dame in 2005.

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