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Paul Hastings Opens Office in Chicago

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Law.com
November 22, 2006

Paul, Hastings, Janofsky & Walker has opened a Chicago office with four attorneys, including two Jones Day lawyers, Steve Catlett and Rick Chesley, who join the firm as partners.

Paul Hastings already had 17 offices worldwide, but the lack of a Chicago office was a noticeable gap in its footprint, said Catlett, adding that the 1,100-attorney firm had been focusing on overseas expansion, particularly in China.

The "great pool of talent" that Chicago boasts, and the city's status as a manufacturing center and home to many *Fortune* 500 companies and insurance companies, made it a hub that Paul Hastings could no longer ignore, according to Chesley, who will be the office chairman.

The Chicago location is intended as a full-service office, with a goal of rapid expansion.

Catlett is a litigator and a former law clerk to Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor and Kenneth Starr. Chesley's practice includes bankruptcy and restructuring. He was also co-chair of Jones Day's business restructuring and reorganization group.

Paul Hastings has offices in four European countries and is also eyeing Germany, according to Catlett.

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