

Sheppard Mullin Expands Corporate Practice Group With Dealmaking Duo

Transactional Team Joins Firm's San Francisco and Orange County Offices

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Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP has added partner Joshua A. Dean in Orange County and special counsel Thomas G. Reddy in San Francisco. Dean and Reddy join Sheppard Mullin's Corporate practice group from Bingham McCutchen.

"We are thrilled to welcome Josh and Tom, who bring a bank-focused transactional expertise to our Corporate practice group. Their knowledge and capabilities dovetail well with our financial institutions practice, while also strategically expanding our capabilities geared toward community and regional banks. Josh brings a significant level of banking industry M&A, securities and other experience, while Tom specializes in a mix of bank regulatory, finance and transactional work," said Guy N. Halgren, chairman of Sheppard Mullin.

"Tom and I are thrilled to be joining Sheppard Mullin together. We have been very impressed by the firm's strategic vision, well-managed growth, commitment to California, and robust corporate and financial institutions practices. Sheppard Mullin provides us with a very strong platform, which is essential to enable us to provide the best possible service to our clients. I am impressed with the firm's entrepreneurial, collaborative and welcoming culture," Dean commented.

Dean's practice focuses primarily on mergers and acquisitions; public offerings and private placements of equity and debt securities, representing issuers, underwriters and private equity and venture capital funds; recapitalizations and restructurings; and general business law matters. He regularly advises companies, boards of directors and others in complex and sensitive matters, such as executive management transitions, takeover defense, proxy contests and significant regulatory actions. Dean also counsels clients on securities law and regulatory matters, corporate governance requirements and general corporate matters. His experience extends to a variety of industries, including financial services, investment banking, private equity, venture capital, technology and residential and commercial real estate development. Dean's clients range from closely held concerns to exchange-listed companies.

Reddy focuses on banking, financing transactions, securities and related areas of commercial law. Prior to private practice, he served as general counsel of a major savings association. Because of the breadth of his practice, Reddy provides a full range of legal services to banks and other public and private companies. A

significant part of his practice is mergers and acquisitions of both public and privately held companies, usually in regulated businesses such as banking and insurance. Reddy has had primary responsibility for more than 20 financial institutions mergers, acquisitions and changes of control in Northern California in recent years. These have included stock-for-stock mergers, cash acquisitions or investments, and combination cash-and-stock mergers. A related area is capital formation; his experience includes both underwritten and best-efforts registered public offerings. Reddy also specializes in bank regulatory work, which includes acquisition and control issues, holding company issues, non-banking activities, Regulation O and other affiliate transactions, conflict of interest, consumer lending, and enforcement proceedings. He also counsels clients on compliance with securities laws and can review or prepare reports and statements under the 1933 and 1934 securities acts and works in all areas of financing, including syndicated commercial loans, secured and unsecured commercial lending, consumer credit, public finance, and real estate financing.

Dean received a J.D. from University of California, Los Angeles School of Law in 2000 and a B.A., *summa cum laude*, from University of California, Los Angeles in 1997. Reddy received a J.D. from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law in 1973 and an A.B., *cum laude*, from Dartmouth College in 1970.

Sheppard Mullin has 65 attorneys based in its Orange County office and 90 attorneys based in its San Francisco office. The firm's Corporate practice group includes 150 attorneys firmwide.

Practice Areas

Corporate

Emerging Company & Venture Capital

Mergers and Acquisitions

Private Equity