

## Vorys Continues Expansion of HUD Finance Practice

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Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease is pleased to welcome Kathleen Burtschi as of counsel in the firm's Washington, D.C. office. Burtschi will join the firm's Housing and Urban Development (HUD) finance practice, which is one of the largest in the country.

Prior to joining Vorys, Burtschi spent more than 20 years as an attorney at HUD, where she was primarily responsible for the development and implementation of the legal closing protocols under HUD's LEAN programs for construction and refinancing of health care facilities. She was also responsible for resolving complicated legal and policy issues related to health care loans with HUD staff, lenders, outside counsel, owners and operators.

"With the addition of Kathleen to our HUD finance group, we now have 13 attorneys who devote all or a substantial portion of their practice to the representation of lenders and borrowers in connection with HUD financing transactions," said Charles Bissinger, head of the Vorys HUD finance practice, which is based in the firm's Cincinnati office.

"Kathleen has extraordinary knowledge of HUD's multifamily and health care mortgage insurance programs and will contribute immediately to the continuing growth of our practice."

Vorys represents several major players in the industry that extend loans to finance multifamily housing, seniors housing, nursing homes and assisted-living facilities. The firm has closed loans in 49 states and Washington, D.C. and represents clients located throughout the United States.

"We're excited to welcome Kathleen to the firm," said Joseph Lonardo, managing partner of the Vorys Washington, D.C. office. "She brings special expertise based on her 20-year distinguished career at HUD and extends the significant capabilities of the firm's HUD finance group to the Vorys Washington, D.C. office."

Burtschi's practice includes HUD-insured financings and affordable housing transactions. She is skilled in all aspects of HUD-insured loan closings, including LEAN closing protocols, accounts receivable

financing, nursing home portfolio transactions and master leases.

Burtschi has presented at several lender conferences and at numerous training sessions for lenders, private attorneys and HUD attorneys and staff. She also was a speaker at the 2010 National Investment Center Conference. Burtschi received her J.D. from the University of Denver, Sturm College of Law, and her B.A. from the University of Michigan.

**About Vorys:** Vorys was established in 1909 and has grown to be one of the largest Ohio-based law firms with nearly 375 attorneys in six offices in Columbus, Cincinnati, Cleveland and Akron, Ohio; Washington, D.C.; and Houston, Texas. Vorys currently ranks as one of the 200 largest law firms in the United States according to *American Lawyer* magazine.