

March 1, 2016

Dear Clients and Friends of the Firm,

We are pleased to announce that Schneider, Smeltz, Ranney & LaFond PLL and Spieth, Bell, McCurdy & Newell Co., L.P.A. will combine our practices, effective March 1, 2016. Our new office will be on the 9<sup>th</sup> Floor of One Cleveland Center, 1375 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44114.

Our new firm, SCHNEIDER SMELTZ SPIETH BELL LLP, will bring together two of Cleveland's oldest, highest quality law firms. Separately, we are similar in size and culture, with practice strengths that are highly complementary.

We will now have 25 lawyers who will provide our clients a broader range of services and deeper bench of legal talent. Each of our lawyers is committed to delivering the same high quality, personalized and dedicated service that you have experienced. Our lawyers are licensed to practice law in Ohio, New York, Florida, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and California and before various federal and state courts. We actively serve in many professional organizations, and our lawyers are highly ranked by our peers, including five of us who are Fellows in the prestigious American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and six of us who are listed in Best Lawyers in America.

Our experience, creativity and commitment to your needs, long a hallmark of our individual firms, will continue. We will focus on business law, real estate, litigation, family law, taxation and trusts and estates. We are dedicated to providing thoughtful, practical solutions to the complex problems faced by our clients, with the same devotion to the excellent personal and timely service that you have come to expect from our lawyers.

Both firms were founded in the mid-1800s. We are proud of our histories and longevity, but each of us focuses his or her practice on forward-thinking, creative solutions to the issues our clients face today.

We are excited and hope you will join us in celebrating this milestone. We look forward to working with you as a combined firm. You will hear much more about SCHNEIDER SMELTZ SPIETH BELL LLP in the near future, but we wanted to share this exciting news with you as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please contact either of us or any of our colleagues.

Sincerely,



James D. Vail  
Managing Partner  
Schneider, Smeltz, Ranney & LaFond PLL



James R. Bright  
President  
Spieth, Bell, McCurdy & Newell Co., L.P.A.