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**Associate General Counsel, Lateral Associates Join Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP**

CHICAGO — July 30, 2015 — Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP announces the arrival of a new partner and three lateral associates, including one to its Madison County, Ill. office.

Partner **Christy J. Benton** joins the firm from John Crane Inc. in Chicago, where she was Associate General Counsel – Litigation. Ms. Benton focuses her practice on Asbestos Litigation, Toxic Tort Litigation and Product Liability. She received her J.D. from the University of Detroit-Mercy School of Law in 1995 and her B.A. from Michigan State University in 1992.

Associate **Kenneth C. Hoffmann** joins Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP from Bollinger Connolly Krause LLC, where he was also an associate. He focuses his practice on Medical Negligence and Healthcare, Construction Litigation, and Product Liability. Mr. Hoffmann received his J.D from DePaul University College of Law in 2011 and his B.A. from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2008.

Associate **Alejandra M. Rodriguez** joins the firm from Huston, May & Fayez, LLC in Chicago, where she was also an associate. She concentrates her practice on Medical Negligence and Healthcare, Family Law and General Trial Practice. Ms. Rodriguez received her J.D. *magna cum laude* from Nova Southeastern University’s Shepard Law Center in 2012 and her B.S. with honors from Nova Southeastern University in 2009.

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Associate **Abbey A. Fritz**, who practices in Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP’s Madison County office, was previously an associate at Brown & James, P.C. in Belleville, Ill. She focuses her practice on Asbestos Litigation and Toxic Tort Litigation. Ms. Fritz received her J.D. from Southern Illinois University School of Law in 2014 and her B.A. *summa cum laude* from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville in 2011.

**About Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP**

Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP, a nationally recognized litigation firm in Chicago, is dedicated to resolving contested matters for our clients. Jury trial experience is the hallmark of the firm. Our attorneys have tried hundreds of cases to verdict in a variety of complex civil and commercial disputes. Many large corporations, prestigious institutions, business owners and individuals retain Swanson, Martin & Bell, LLP in jurisdictions across the United States. Since its inception in 1992, the firm has grown to over 120 attorneys in 24 practice areas with offices in Chicago, Lisle, Libertyville and Madison County, Ill. and St. Louis, Mo. Visit our website at [www.smbtrials.com](http://www.smbtrials.com).

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