

## Partners from Two of the Midwest's Top Law Firms Launch New Firm Serving the Litigation, Regulatory, and Transactional Needs of Businesses and Individuals

Matasar Jacobs to leverage more than 35 combined years of practice in delivering results oriented, client-centric representation nationwide

Scott Matasar and Mark Jacobs, former partners at two of the Midwest's largest and most prominent law firms, have come together to launch <u>Matasar Jacobs LLC</u>. The new law firm will serve the litigation, regulatory, and transactional needs of publicly-traded and privately-held businesses and individuals engaged in a range of market segments and industries, including securities, financial services, private equity and real estate.

"This is a special opportunity for us to marshal our extensive and diverse experience, while bringing a new model for providing excellent legal services to our clients," Jacobs said. "We have successfully tried and arbitrated tough litigation matters throughout the country, conducted complicated internal investigations, navigated regulatory hazards, and helped guide businesses through all types of challenges. Together, we offer our clients the same superior counsel, without the constraints and costs of hiring a large firm."

Matasar and Jacobs recognize their region needs sophisticated and pragmatic counsel that understands clients' need to predict and contain legal spending. "In this environment of reduced legal budgets, we are committed to an approach to advocacy that understands the realities of our clients' business objectives and finances. We understand that our clients are in the business of doing business, not hiring lawyers," said Matasar. "By preventing legal costs from becoming so prohibitive that they affect strategy, we will be able to use all of our experience and creativity to provide our clients more flexibility in addressing their legal concerns," said Jacobs.

Both Matasar and Jacobs bring broad experience to their new enterprise. Matasar is a litigator with 20 years experience, first with a large law firm in Manhattan and for the past 16 years with the Cleveland office of Calfee, Halter & Griswold LLP. Throughout his career he's successfully defended broker/dealer firms, Registered Investment Advisors, life insurance carriers and other financial institutions and professionals in litigation, arbitration, and regulatory enforcement matters. Matasar also counsels his financial services clients on recruiting issues and business transactions. Additionally, Matasar works with corporate clients on internal investigations and high-value commercial litigation matters involving contract disputes, tortious interference claims, fraud and other business issues. Recognized by Super Lawyer Magazine as one of the "Top 50 Lawyers in Cleveland" and one of the "Top 100 Lawyers in Ohio" Matasar frequently lectures and writes on topics relating to securities litigation and arbitration matters, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA) regulatory developments, and broker/dealer operational issues including risk mitigation, employment, recruiting and practice acquisitions.

"Scott is an effective and tenacious litigator who brings outstanding instincts and delivers excellent results. Just as importantly, he innately understands the need to have his case strategy align with the greater objectives of our organization," said Thomas FitzSimmons, General Counsel of Stark Enterprises, Inc., a full service real estate development company.

Jacobs, an accomplished litigator and former partner in the Cleveland office of Taft Stettinius & Hollister LLP, brings 15 years of diverse legal experience that is enhanced by his background as a transactional lawyer. His



practice focuses on providing complex litigation and corporate advisory counsel to a wide range of businesses, entrepreneurs, and executives. As lead trial, arbitration, and appeals counsel, Jacobs has represented businesses in diverse industries and matters, including disputes related to mergers and acquisitions, real estate acquisitions, shareholder disputes, non-compete agreements, protection of trade secrets, and contract disputes. He also advises clients on contract negotiations, financing transactions, leases, and other business issues. Repeatedly named by Super Lawyer Magazine as an "Ohio Super Lawyer" and an "Ohio Rising Star," Jacobs has served the past four years as a co-chair of the Private Equity Litigation Subcommittee of the American Bar Association's Litigation Section.

"Mark is a smart and creative lawyer who has provided insightful guidance and forceful advocacy in some of our most complex matters. He has produced extraordinary results for us, while always keeping a singular focus on our goals at every stage," said T.J. Asher, CEO of Weston, Inc., a regional owner and developer of commercial real estate with properties throughout the country.

The firm is located at 1111 Superior Ave., in downtown Cleveland. "It is important to us to be in Cleveland's central business district to best serve our clients and participate in the dynamic growth that the city and region is experiencing. Our firm is another sign of the city's renewed entrepreneurial spirit and we look forward to supporting it," Jacobs said.

## About Matasar Jacobs LLC

Matasar Jacobs LLC, <a href="www.matasarjacobs.com">www.matasarjacobs.com</a>, is a Cleveland-based law firm serving the litigation, regulatory and transactional needs of publicly-traded and privately-held businesses and individuals engaged in a range of market segments and industries, including securities, financial services, private equity and real estate. Founded by Scott Matasar and Mark Jacobs, Matasar Jacobs leverages more than 35 combined years of practice to deliver agile, sophisticated, and creative representation to businesses ranging from start-ups to Fortune 500 companies. Its approach is results oriented and client-centric, providing clients with the same sophisticated counsel expected from larger firms.



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