

Mayer Brown Adds Vinson & Elkins Tax Pro In Houston

By **Linda Chiem**

Law360, New York (May 06, 2013, 5:41 PM ET) -- Mayer Brown LLP has landed a prominent tax partner from Vinson & Elkins LLP who specializes in energy-related transactions and mergers and acquisitions to join its Houston office, the firm announced Monday.

Edward C. Osterberg Jr. joins the firm as a partner in Mayer Brown's tax transactions and consulting practice group, where he will advise corporate and individual clients on the federal tax consequences of various transactions, including mergers and acquisitions, tax-free reorganizations, corporate spinoffs and other divestitures, partnerships and foreign operations, the firm said.

Osterberg said in a statement Monday that he was pleased to join the firm.

"Mayer Brown's strong global platform and vast resources complement my extensive experience in providing energy-related tax transactions counsel to both domestic and international energy companies," he said. "I look forward to contributing to the continued growth of the Houston office and working with my new colleagues around the world."

Osterberg focuses his practice on all areas of business income taxation, with a particular emphasis on energy companies, and also specializes in international transactions, the firm said. He handles tax matters on cross-border joint ventures with non-U.S. partners and inbound investment in the U.S. by foreign investors.

Mayer Brown's top brass praised the wealth of experience Osterberg brings to the firm.

"With more than 30 years of experience, Ed is well-known in Houston for his impressive track record of handling a wide range of sophisticated international tax transactions for multinational companies, particularly for those in the energy industry," Jason Bazar, a coleader of Mayer Brown's global tax transactions and consulting practice, said in a statement. "Ed's unique skill set expands Mayer Brown's position as a leading law firm in the international tax space while further diversifying the firm's offerings in Houston and across our global platform."

Neil Wasserstrom, partner-in-charge of Mayer Brown's Houston office, agreed, saying Osterberg's arrival accelerates the firm's momentum in Houston. In the past year the firm has hired a number of top-tier partners, including Shawn O'Brien in the tax controversy practice; Bill Heller, Harry Beaudry and Kirk Tucker in the corporate and securities practice; and Bill Hart Jr. in the banking and finance practice.

Osterberg earned both his bachelor's and law degrees from Northwestern University, as well as a master's of law degree in taxation from Southern Methodist University.

Mayer Brown has approximately 1,500 attorneys in 20 offices in the U.S., Europe and Asia.

--Editing by Stephen Berg.

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