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EXECUTIVE CHANGES

Cox, Castle & Nicholson LLP Adds John Whitaker To Land Use Team

ox, Castle & Nicholson LLP, a preeminent full-service law firm focused on real estate in the United States, announced that land use and transactional law veteran John Whitaker has joined the firm. Whitaker brings more than 50 years of exceptional legal counsel to developers of major downtown Los Angeles projects and other domestic and foreign investors in large-scale office, residential, lodging, and retail buildings, to the firm's award-winning land use practice group.

"John is an institution in the Los Angeles real estate industry and we are incredibly fortunate to have an accomplished and admired professional join our team," said Mario Camara, senior partner on Cox, Castle & Nicholson's management committee. "His best-in-class counsel and track record for successfully navigating some of DTLA's most complex projects will be instrumental for the real estate industry's evolving legal landscape."

Dubbed "Mr. Downtown" within the legal community, Whitaker has played a significant role in

the revitalization of the Los Angeles city center since the late 1970s. He counseled major developers including Greenland USA, The Ratkovich Company, Related Group, and Brookfield Properties, and served on the TFAR Task Force, which played a pivotal role in drafting City and Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) policies. As a result, he quickly became the go-to resource for transfers of floor area rights, which enabled property owners to quantify and sell unused development rights from their sites to other landowners, who can then increase the density of new construction.

"There are many synergies between my land use and transactional practice and the vast commercial work that I've witnessed from Cox, Castle & Nicholson over the last 50 years," said Whitaker. "I was drawn to Cox Castle's passion for excellence in real estate law, and believe that my knowledge and experience, combined with the firm's accomplished team, will enable us to deliver unparalleled legal services to Los Angeles developers and beyond."



John Whitaker