



Press Release

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Media Contact:

Lisa Murray

617.856.8509

lmurray@brownrudnick.com

BROWN RUDNICK HOSTS OVER 350 INTERNATIONAL RETAILERS AND REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS AT 2007 ICSC SPRING CONVENTION

Annual gala during world's largest real estate convention facilitates new and extended retail business development in northeastern U.S.

Boston, MA, May 30, 2007 – Last week, over 350 leaders in retail and real estate development gathered at the Wynn Resort in Las Vegas for Brown Rudnick's fifth annual cocktail reception during the 2007 International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) Spring Convention. Brown Rudnick's Retail & Shopping Centers Practice hosted **The Honorable Thomas M. Menino, Mayor of the City of Boston**, to create a forum for retailers and developers to discuss opportunities in Boston and across the Northeast.

Mayor Menino attended along with executives from the Boston Redevelopment Authority (www.cityofboston.gov/bra), Boston's planning, zoning, and economic development agency. According to the Mayor, "Boston continues to be a very important market for major retailers and restaurants. Brown Rudnick's ICSC reception offers a strong platform for retail industry leaders to explore new project development in the Hub."

During the reception, Brown Rudnick introduced its expanded Government Law & Strategies Group. Within the last year, the firm has added to its Boston office **Paul G. Afonso**, former Chairman of the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Energy; **Carole Brennan**, former Director of External Affairs for The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) and former Press Secretary to The Honorable Thomas M. Menino, Mayor of the City of Boston; and **Kevin M. Considine** and **Martin Nastasia**, both of whom joined from KMC Strategies Group, a Boston-based government consulting firm. Additionally, Brown Rudnick added to its Washington DC office **James J. Bonham**, former Executive Director of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC), and Chief of Staff to the late Representative Robert T. Matsui.

At the reception it was also announced that **James Wakim**, a partner in the firm's Hartford office had recently been appointed Connecticut State Chair for ICSC.

Thomas J. Phillips, Co-Chair of Brown Rudnick's Retail & Shopping Centers Practice and ICSC's Eastern Division Next Generation Chair, comments, "Our long-standing relationship with the City of Boston has enabled us to work closely with the city on a wide range of retail development initiatives and general real estate matters. As our retail practice continues to



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grow, we look forward to serving as a primary resource for retailers and real estate developers looking to do business in the Northeast.”

During the convention, Mr. Phillips participated in the interactive educational workshop “Deal or No Deal: Live letter of Intent Negotiation”. Along with two veteran industry lease negotiators, Mr. Phillips served in the role as lawyer commentator in a mock restaurant pad lease negotiation.

Celebrating its 50th year of serving the global retail real estate industry, the ICSC Spring Convention is the largest gathering of real estate and retail professionals in the world. This year’s convention, which took place from May 20 – 23 at the Las Vegas Convention Center, attracted 55,000 attendees with its theme of REACHING BEYOND THE GOLD.

About Brown Rudnick Berlack Israels LLP

Brown Rudnick is an international law firm with offices in the United States and Europe. The firm represents clients from around the world, providing business-focused solutions that address today’s ever-changing, ever-demanding competitive marketplace. With an entrepreneurial and collaborative mindset, Brown Rudnick offers a broad slate of capabilities and talents in areas that include: Bankruptcy & Corporate Restructuring, Complex Litigation, Corporate & Securities, Energy, Finance, Government Law & Strategies, Health Law, Intellectual Property and Real Estate. For more information, please visit www.brownrudnick.com.

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