

Kaplan, Massamillo & Andrews and Zuckert, Scoutt & Rasenberger Announce Merger

Combined firm will be named KMA Zuckert

[December 6, 2018]—The members of Kaplan, Massamillo & Andrews, LLC (KMA) and partners of Zuckert, Scoutt & Rasenberger, LLP (ZSR) have unanimously approved a merger between the two firms, effective January 1, 2019. Together, the two firms will have approximately 40 attorneys practicing from office locations in Chicago, New York and Washington, D.C., with significant practices across a range of specialties, including aviation and commercial litigation, transportation regulation, tax, aircraft transactions, space law, trucking, insurance coverage and reinsurance, and government contracts.

Clients will gain access to one of the largest, and most sophisticated, multi-disciplinary aviation practices in the country. The combined firm will build upon ZSR's decades of experience providing regulatory, commercial and tax counsel to U.S. and foreign airlines, other aviation businesses, and aerospace clients, and KMA's skill and proven success record strategically litigating for aviation entities and their insurers, whether in arbitration or at the trial and appellate levels. The merger will additionally benefit clients by providing greater access to both ZSR's tax practice specialties in other areas, including advising nonprofit organizations on governance, exempt status eligibility, international transactions and tax controversies, as well as KMA's well-regarded and broad-based business and aviation platforms, including representing clients in accident litigation, NTSB investigations and hearings and in defending employers in a wide-range of employment-based claims.

The combined firm will be named KMA Zuckert, borrowing from each firm's legacy and unique identity.

"Our merger with KMA is the result of a careful planning process which involved an analysis of each firm's core strengths, leading us to conclude that a combination presents clear advantages to our clients and our team," noted Malcolm Benge, ZSR partner and management committee member. "We have a deep admiration and respect for our colleagues at KMA, who share our demonstrated commitment to client service and have developed a stellar reputation as a go-to litigation firm for aviation entities and their insurers. We couldn't be more thrilled to embark upon this next exciting chapter with them. Together, our two firms will offer unrivaled capabilities and a broader geographic reach. We believe that the new KMA Zuckert will be a dynamic and influential leader in the aviation legal field," he said.

Telly Andrews, a KMA founder, noted that many of the firm's clients had requested additional aviation industry-related services throughout the last several years including, in particular, tax and transactional advice that KMA previously had not offered. "We knew that for such services, along with its regulatory practice, ZSR is an industry leader and we are excited that we can now offer broad based support for all of our clients' needs." He added that in today's increasingly global aviation industry, companies are gravitating towards firms that can offer a wide-array of services. "The merger," he said, "will result in one of the largest law firms dedicated to the aviation industry in the United States, which will be staffed by acknowledged leading practitioners in their respective fields."

The merger is scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2019.

About Kaplan, Massamillo & Andrews, LLC: From offices in Chicago and New York, KMA concentrates its global litigation and counseling practice in the following areas: aviation, space, product liability, trucking, insurance coverage, reinsurance, construction, toxic tort, employment, business litigation and commercial transactions. KMA is dedicated to providing personal, professional and technologically cutting-edge service to its clients through efficient case preparation, excellence in oral and written advocacy, and aggressive trial strategy.

About Zuckert, Scoutt & Rasenberger, LLP: Founded in 1964 by aviation practitioners Jerry Scoutt and Ray Rasenberger, and former Secretary of the Air Force Eugene Zuckert, ZSR is a Washington, D.C., firm with an extensive legal practice focusing primarily on transportation, tax, and government contracts issues. ZSR has particular expertise in aviation issues, representing airlines, airports, helicopter operators, aviation operating companies, civil aviation authorities, finance entities, suppliers, fixed base operators, lessors, manufacturers, and a broad range of other aviation entities in Federal, state and international matters.