

# New GC for University of California Board of Regents

News In Brief:

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## **New GC for University of California Board of Regents**

The University of California Board of Regents has appointed Charles F. Robinson as General Counsel of the Regents and Vice President for Legal Affairs, Office of the President. Replacing James E. Holst, who retired from the general counsel post in June, Robinson will assume his new responsibilities on January 1, 2007. As General Counsel of the Regents, he will lead a staff of 40 attorneys and 45 paralegal, administrative, and support employees at the organization's Oakland headquarters and another 17 attorneys at six university campuses with resident counsel. Prior to joining the University of California, Robinson served as Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary for the California Independent System Operator Corporation, a wholesale electric transmission operator. Jeffrey Blair will continue serving as the acting general counsel until Robinson takes over.

## **University of Portland establishes new GC post**

Henry Lazenby, Jr., who is serving as Interim General Counsel at the University of Portland, has been appointed to the newly created post of University General Counsel. Lazenby will primarily serve as a liaison between the university and the Oregon Department of Justice and will be a legal representative for the university. As University General Counsel, Lazenby's main priority will be to develop a legal affairs office on campus. The university plans to hire more attorneys in the future to help with its growing workload.

### **Littelfuse names new GC and HR head**

Ryan K. Stafford has been named Vice President of Human Resources and General Counsel for circuit protection solutions provider Littelfuse, Inc. Stafford will focus on labor recruiting as well as developing and retaining international personnel, along with providing legal expertise to the company. He specializes in international mergers and acquisitions, trade and joint ventures, litigation, and compliance and labor issues. He is currently working for Tyco International and will join Littelfuse on January 1, 2007. At Tyco, Stafford is currently handling corporate shared services and coordinated government, cultural affairs, and regulatory programs for the company's Chinese branch.

### **Reinhart Boerner appoints VP and GC**

Milwaukee-based law firm Reinhart Boerner Van Deuren, SC, has appointed Francis W. "Fran" Deisinger as Vice President and General Counsel. Deisinger has been associated with the company since 1982 and is currently a shareholder in its litigation department. He is also an active member of the Milwaukee Bar Association, which recently re-elected him to serve a second three-year term as Director. A business law firm, Reinhart Boerner has more than 200 attorneys working in offices in Milwaukee, Waukesha, and Madison, WI, and Rockford, IL. Its clients are mostly publicly and privately held corporations, financial institutions, family-owned businesses, exempt organizations, and individuals.

### **New senior VP and GC at Obopay**

Obopay, a comprehensive mobile payment service, has hired leading Silicon Valley dealmaker Judy O'Brien as Senior Vice President and General Counsel. O'Brien will handle all corporate matters, including strategic partnerships,

intellectual property issues, and international expansion. As part of the senior management team, she will contribute to the firm's growth and expansion in the U.S. and across the world. Prior to joining Obopay, O'Brien was Co-Founder and Managing Director of the Incubic Venture Fund. She has been named one of *Forbes'* "Most Powerful Dealmakers" for five years in succession.

### **Kaiser Permanente lauded for diversity efforts in its corporate legal department**

Oakland-based Kaiser Permanente received accolades from the Minority Corporate Counsel Association and was awarded the association's John Essex & Guy Rounsaville In-House Counsel Diversity Award for its efforts to promote diversity within its corporate law department. Senior Vice President and General Counsel Steve R. Zatkin heads the company's legal and government relations department; of the department's 72 lawyers, 25% are minorities and 60% are women. The organization has a strong record of hiring outside counsel from diverse backgrounds. Kaiser Permanente is a nonprofit group practice prepayment program that meets the healthcare needs of members in nine states and the District of Columbia.