

Allstate Corp. hires new GC

News In Brief:

Date: 10-23-2007

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Allstate Corp. has hired lawyer Michele Coleman Mayes as its new general counsel and senior vice president. Mayes, who will replace Michael McCabe, said she took the job because Allstate is a "bigger company" with a "bigger challenge." She also strongly agrees with Allstate's chief executive officer, Tom Wilson, and his mission to improve Allstate's "customer focus" and to "[build] a leadership team that is willing to take risks while being held accountable for its decisions." Currently, Mayes works for Pitney Bowes as its senior vice president and general counsel. Starting November 5, Mayes' duties at Allstate will include overseeing the company's legal and public policy activities.

Keystone Automotive hires new GC

Keystone Automotive Industries Inc. has hired John Arena as its new vice president, general counsel, and secretary, replacing soon-to-retire Jim Lockwood. Arena, who received his B.S. in Business Administration from the University of Rhode Island and his J.D. from Tulane University, has worked for Golden Ventures (formerly a division of Beverly Enterprises Inc.) as its deputy chief legal officer. According to Keystone's chief executive officer, Richard Keister, the company is "extremely pleased to welcome John Arena to [its] executive management team. John has an impressive legal background and offers Keystone a wealth of experience related to corporate law matters and litigation strategy."

University of Missouri hires new GC

The University of Missouri has hired partner and chairman at Stinson Morrison Hecker, LLP, Stephen Owens as its new general counsel, replacing Marvin "Bunky" Wright. Owens, who graduated from the University of Missouri, Columbia, in 1977, will be "responsible for providing legal advice and representation for the university's four campuses, the Board of Curators, the present and general officers, University of Missouri Health Care, and University employees acting in their official capacity," says an [article](#). While Owens is slightly nervous about "walking in from the outside," he's confident that his prior legal work will help in the transition.