

The Cooper Companies Hires New GC

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Healthcare-product manufacturing company The Cooper Companies Inc. hired Daniel G. McBride as its new vice president and general counsel. McBride, who joined the company in 2005 as its senior counsel, became vice president and senior counsel of The Cooper Companies and vice president and general counsel of CooperVision Inc. in 2006. Previously, McBride worked as an attorney at Latham & Watkins, LLP. He holds a J.D. from Stanford Law School and a B.S. in Finance from Santa Clara University.

Jack in the Box Hires New GC

Fast food restaurant Jack in the Box hired Phillip Rudolph as its senior vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary. Previously, Rudolph has worked for Ethical Leadership Group, serving as its vice president and general counsel. But the fast food industry is not new to Rudolph — he has worked for fast food giant McDonald's, as well as other companies. According to Jack in the Box's chief executive officer, Linda Lang, "The breadth of Rudolph's background and experience will complement our existing resources and serve the company and our major stakeholders well as we pursue our strategic objectives."

RehabCare Group Hires New GC

St. Louis-based RehabCare Group Inc. hired Patricia Williams as the company's new general counsel, vice president, and corporate secretary.

Williams, who will be responsible for the legal oversight of the company, previously served as vice president, general counsel, and corporate secretary at Thermadyne Holdings Inc. RehabCare "provides rehabilitation program management at healthcare facilities in 43 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico," says St.LouisBusinessJournal.com.

Eddie Bauer Names New Hires

Along with hiring a new chief financial officer, Eddie Bauer Inc. has appointed Freya R. Brier as its new general counsel. The apparel company also hired Ronn Hall as its new senior vice president of sourcing and supply chain. Brier, 49, recently served as general counsel for Wild Oats Markets Inc. and for Synergen Inc.

Missouri State University Hires New GC

Hired by Missouri State University as its new general counsel, Clifton "Cliff" Smart will begin in his position December 1. Smart, who has served as vice president of Strong Law Firm since 1998, holds a J.D. from the University of Arkansas School of Law and a B.A. from Tulane University.

Assurant Inc. Loses GC

Insurance provider Assurant Inc. lost its general counsel, Michele Coleman Mayes, when she stepped down from the company's board of directors to join The Allstate Corporation as its new vice president and general counsel. "Due to her recent appointment," said CNNMoney.com, "...and the potential for a future actual or perceived conflict of interest, she would no longer be able to serve on [Assurant's] board." Of Mayes, Assurant's chief executive officer said, "We congratulate Michele on her new role with Allstate and thank her for the enormous contributions she has made over the past three years as a member of

our board of directors...She has been a great director, and we wish her all the best in her new career."