

Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank Hires First-Ever GC

News In Brief:

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The Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank has hired Simon Copleston as its first general counsel and will be responsible for readying the bank for the arrival of five new lawyers. Previously, Copleston served at Olswang in 2006 and Dubai International Capital. "There has been a huge increase in the number of banks and property developers who have hired good in-house counsel over the past couple of years," said Niall O'Toole, Clyde & Co. corporate partner, regarding the bank's decision to hire Copleston.

Clothing Store Eddie Bauer Hires New GC

Clothing company Eddie Bauer has hired Karen Novotny as its new associate general counsel and divisional vice president. Recently, Novotny was Wild Oats Markets' vice president and associate general counsel; she had been with Wild Oats since 1999. She received her J.D. from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1986.

WellCare Health Plans Hires New GC

WellCare Health Plans Inc. has hired former Assistant U.S. Attorney Thomas F. O'Neil III as its new general counsel, senior vice president, and secretary. After several people resigned from WellCare, including the previous GC, O'Neil will begin his responsibilities in April. Previously, O'Neil served as a partner at DLA Piper US, LLP, senior vice president and general counsel of the MCI Group, an assistant U.S. attorney for the District of Maryland, and a law clerk to U.S.

District Judge Alexander Harvey II.

GC to Leave Tenet Healthcare

Tenet Healthcare Corp.'s general counsel has decided to step down to pursue other opportunities outside of the company. In 2003 Peter Urbanowicz joined Tenet as deputy general counsel of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. He has also served in several law firms in New Orleans as well as in healthcare regulatory law. "In his four years with Tenet, Urbanowicz managed the company's resolution of issues with the United States Department of Justice, the Securities and Exchange Commission, and other civil matters facing the company," said President and CEO Trevor Fetter. "Virtually all of Tenet's major litigation has been resolved, and we thank Peter for his efforts in getting us past those issues."

New GC Arrives at Midwest Air Group

Midwest Air Group has hired David Sislowski as its new general counsel, senior vice president, and secretary. Beginning March 17, 2008, Sislowski will be responsible for all corporate legal matters. He previously served as senior vice president, general counsel, and secretary for Frontier Airlines and as general counsel for Alexander Capital. "We're delighted to bring David aboard and look forward to benefiting from his guidance and expertise in the years to come. His knowledge and experience will be a welcome addition to 'The best care in the air,'" said Chairman and CEO Timothy Hoeksema. Sislowski earned his J.D. from the University of Washington School of Law in Seattle and his bachelor's degree in history from Case Western Reserve University.