

IN BRIEF

Real Estate Finance Group Heads for King & Spalding

King & Spalding has added a seven-attorney real estate finance group in New York from a midsize Boston-based firm.

The attorneys joining King & Spalding as of June 1 include partners Erik Andersen,



Erik Andersen

Elizabeth Gable and Jared Zaben, as well as four counsel: Brett Nizzo, Nathan Pagett, Julian Buchbinder and David Hart. The lawyers had been at Riemer & Braunstein,



Elizabeth Gable

a 100-attorney firm founded in Boston that opened its New York office in 2004.



Jared Zaben

Andersen said the group represents lenders, including banks, private equity firms, hedge funds and family offices, in structuring and documenting construction, bridge, term, and mezzanine loans and other complex debt transactions. Andersen said he anticipates existing clients will join him at his new firm.

Andersen, who practiced at his prior firm for 12 years, said he left for King & Spalding because he was attracted to the Atlanta-



Courtesy photo

founded firm's national and international presence and its full-service capabilities.

"In today's market," he said, "that's helpful in serving the needs of our clients."

Gable, who spent five years at Riemer & Braunstein, said King & Spalding's ancillary practices, such as those in tax, ERISA and intellectual property, will be of benefit to clients.

Stanley Riemer, the managing partner of Riemer & Braunstein, said the midsize firm has about 25 attorneys remaining in New York and is planning to add more attorneys in real estate finance in the next two months.

Riemer said the group's departure was amicable and it won't affect his firm's real estate finance practice, one of its core areas of focus. The exiting group's practice was mostly representing private equity lenders, he said, whereas Riemer & Braunstein traditionally has represented financial institutions.

"They developed it," he said, referring the private equity lending practice the lawyers are taking to King & Spalding, "they handled it and they left with it. And they did a great job."

— Christine Simmons