

## Montgomery McCracken Adds 2 Litigation Partners In Philly

By **Alex Wolf**

*Law360, New York (July 2, 2015, 4:19 PM ET)* -- Montgomery McCracken Walker & Rhoads LLP announced on Wednesday that it has expanded its litigation department in Philadelphia with the addition of two partners coming from Anderson Kill PC and Kaufman Coren & Ress PC with several decades' worth of experience in commercial litigation and related fields.

Peter J. Deeb joins Montgomery McCracken after a nearly two-year stint as a shareholder at Anderson Kill, preceded by a 22-year stretch as a name partner at Deeb Blum Murphy Frishberg & Markovich PC. Deeb is joined as a new partner by fellow Philadelphia lawyer David Dormont, who spent just more than 20 years as an attorney at Kaufman Coren.

Deeb concentrates his practice in the areas of commercial litigation, employment litigation and tort defense and has served as counsel for leasing companies, banks, corporations and other business entities, the firm said. Dormont has experience focusing on complex commercial litigation and bankruptcy-related litigation, representing a diverse range of clients from individuals and unions to Fortune 500 companies in complex commercial disputes, according to the firm.

In an email to Law360 on Thursday, firm Chairman Rich Scheff called the additions of Deeb and Dormont a "win-win-win" for the firm, its clients and the new attorneys, whom he praised for what they bring to the firm.

"We welcome David and Pete, who have years of experience that complements the firm's already deep litigation and trial experience," Scheff said. "They bring to us new clients and new opportunities which, given our capabilities, we will be able to service these more fully."

For more than 25 years, Deeb has represented clients in breach of contract, tortious interference with contract, unjust enrichment and fraud litigation, and in employment matters, including restrictive covenants such as noncompete and nonsolicitation clauses as well as discrimination claims, according to the firm.

Deeb also counsels clients regarding all aspects of equipment leasing, including portfolio purchase agreements, program agreements and master lease agreements and the review and revision of employment agreements, the firm added.

Deeb said in an email on Thursday that as a longtime practitioner in Philadelphia, he has always been impressed with Montgomery McCracken and, in light of its many outstanding attorneys, he believes that

it will be a great platform for his practice going forward.

According to the firm, Dormont has handled more than 200 matters in federal and state courts and before arbitration panels in a variety of jurisdictions. He has tried cases, as first or second chair, before various trial courts, including in trials that resulted in two of the 10 largest verdicts reported in Pennsylvania in 2005, the firm said.

In one case from 2009, Dormont recovered more than \$160 million in settlement from claims brought by the Chapter 7 trustee of a failed subprime lender against its former attorneys, accountants and several Wall Street investment banks that had extended financing and had served as underwriters for the failed lender's securitization of subprime mortgages, according to the firm.

Dormont echoed Deeb's thoughts on joining the firm in a statement on Thursday, saying that he has admired the high quality of the firm's legal work and developed a deep respect for its attorneys during his more than 20 years as an attorney in Philadelphia.

"I jumped at the offer to join the firm as a partner, so I can better serve my clients' needs and grow my practice," he said.

Deeb received his degree in law from the University of Pittsburgh School of Law in 1984 and Dormont received his from the University of Minnesota Law School in 1992.

Montgomery McCracken is a multidisciplinary law firm with more than 120 attorneys in offices in Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and Delaware.

--Editing by Stephen Berg.