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**CROWELL & MORING'S IRVINE OFFICE ADDS
LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT PARTNER MARK A. ROMEO**

Irvine, CA. – September 26, 2007: Crowell & Moring LLP is pleased to announce the addition of partner Mark A. Romeo to the firm's Irvine, California office. Romeo, whose representative clients include internationally publicly-traded companies and both large and small privately-held companies with operations in California and elsewhere, will anchor the firm's Labor & Employment Group on the West Coast. The move comes as part of a long-term plan to further enhance practice group depth in the Labor & Employment Group, which last year gained 12 litigators in the New York and Washington, D.C. offices from King Pagano & Harrison. With the addition of Romeo, the firm's Labor & Employment Group now totals nearly 30 lawyers, with practitioners in each of its US offices, London and Brussels.

An experienced business advisor and litigator, Romeo's practice is focused on labor and employment issues affecting high-tech companies in the medical device, semiconductor and entertainment arenas. He provides counseling and litigation-related advice to businesses on a variety of trade secret and unfair competition matters. In particular, Romeo assists executives and managers in developing and implementing plans and strategies to ensure the preservation of valuable electronic data and trade secret information. He counsels companies on a wide variety of employment and labor-related matters, including structuring and negotiating executive employment and independent contractor/consulting agreements. Romeo has extensive experience in litigating a variety of California employment law claims, including wage/hour, employment discrimination and employment contract disputes.

"We are delighted to have Mark on board," said Steven P. Rice, head of Crowell & Moring's California office. "Mark will anchor the firm's Labor & Employment law practice in California, while complementing our existing intellectual property and commercial litigation capabilities."

In addition to Labor & Employment, Romeo will be a member of the Litigation Group and will work closely with the firm's Intellectual Property and Corporate groups.

Orange County has emerged as one of the leading technology centers in the nation, pointing to the need for Labor & Employment counsel that understands issues involving employee mobility, trade secrets, and proprietary information critical for growing companies. Romeo's practice is distinguished by his ability to act as a business advisor as well as legal counselor to leading companies. In addition to his trade secret work, Romeo provides companies with pre-dispute advice, counseling and representation in litigation

concerning employment matters arising from mergers and acquisitions, reductions-in-force, as well with respect to wage and hour, harassment, discrimination and wrongful terminations. His work on trade secret and unfair competition matters includes matters arising under the Lanham Act and state unfair competition law.

“Two things attracted me to Crowell & Moring -- the firm’s long-standing commitment to Orange County and Southern California and the way partners work together across offices and practice groups. I wanted to join a national firm that would enable me to do the best job possible for the client, and I wanted to find a firm whose culture is in line with my commitment to teamwork and integrity. Crowell is exceptional in both respects.”

Romeo joins Crowell & Moring from the Orange County office of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman. A graduate of the University of Southern California School of Business with a B.S. in Business and an emphasis in finance, Romeo earned his law degree at the University of San Francisco School of Law. He is a member of the California bar.

Crowell & Moring LLP is a full-service law firm with more than 350 lawyers practicing in litigation, antitrust, government contracts, labor and employment, corporate, intellectual property and more than 40 other practice areas. More than two-thirds of the firm's attorneys regularly litigate disputes on behalf of domestic and international corporations, start-up businesses, and individuals. Crowell & Moring's extensive client work ranges from advising on one of the world's largest telecommunications mergers to representing governments and corporations on international arbitration matters. Based in Washington, D.C., the firm also has offices in California, New York, London, and Brussels. Visit Crowell & Moring online at <http://www.crowell.com>.