Flaster Greenberg Adds Transportation Practice With New Hire

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James Boyle

Flaster Greenberg PC welcomed litigation attorney and nationally known practitioner in the area of commercial transportation law, Christopher J. Merrick to the firm last week.

According to Law360, Merrick brings more than 13 years of experience in the commercial transportation industry, where he has litigated on behalf of major national clients and advised them on complicated regulatory matters. His practice primarily focuses on assisting domestic and international transportation carriers and intermediaries in all stages of litigation, including appeals and alternative dispute resolution. He also consults with his clients on matters related to international, interstate and intrastate transportation, and the storage of goods.

"It really goes into three different buckets," Merrick said. "The first is best defined as litigation of lost and damaged goods in transit. If a train is derailed and the materials getting transported gets damaged or destroyed, I get involved as a representative of the carrier company. I also do regulatory consulting work if clients have questions about regulations regarding transportation. The other category is basically everything else. Transportation is a relatively big tent."

It's a specialized practice that Flaster Greenberg had not offered until Merrick's addition. Jordan LaVine, the firm's co-managing shareholder, said Merrick's experience and personality gave Flaster Greenberg an opportunity to add an "excellent" lawyer to the team.

"We're often presented with candidates in a new practice area," LaVine said. "We are very careful about making sure the practice and the person will be a good fit. We're not just adding attorneys for the sake of adding attorneys. We saw from the get-go Chris was a perfect fit."

Merrick is the latest in what Flaster Greenberg has called an 18-month lateral hiring boom. It has made 23 hires since January 2020, when it added 11 members to its intellectual property practice. In the last six months, Flaster Greenberg has welcomed five attorneys including **Arthur R. Armstrong**, **Jay M. Levin and Jennifer D. Katz** to its insurance practice, and **Joseph F. Oriti** and **Aaron Ettelman** to its IP practice.

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ATTORNEYS MENTIONED

Jordan LaVine

Christopher Merrick