

## For Immediate Release

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## Katten Appoints Kimberly Smith as Corporate Global Chair

(CHICAGO) Katten announced today that Kimberly Smith has been named the firm's new global chair of its Corporate department effective immediately. Smith will lead more than 125 attorneys housed in the department and succeeds Mark R. Grossmann, who served as global chair of the group for more than a decade.

"Kim has vast experience, and her industry-leading skills are widely known across a range of industries," said Katten Chairman Roger P. Furey. "Her leadership and experience will enhance our already formidable Corporate group, which Mark's longtime leadership contributed to building."

Smith, who also serves as the co-chair of Katten's Mergers & Acquisitions and Private Equity practice with Christopher S. Atkinson, has extensive experience leading complex transactions, including leveraged buyouts and other mergers and acquisitions and investment transactions. She advises Private Equity clients in a wide range of industries, including distribution and manufacturing, health care, business services, consumer, technology and financial services.

"It has been my honor to carry out the many responsibilities in the role of global chair, but it is time for me to hand over the leadership reins, and Kim is the perfect choice," said Grossmann. "I have known Kim since she began her legal career at Katten, and I am confident in her abilities to lead our department as we continue to grow and meet our fullest potential. I look forward to supporting her along the way."

Smith first joined Katten in 1998 and was promoted to partner in 2006. She rejoined the firm in 2015 after five years at another global law firm to serve as the co-head of the nationwide Private Equity practice.

Smith, who also sits on Katten's Board of Directors, was recently named a Top 25 Most Influential Women in Mid-Market M&A by *Mergers & Acquisitions*, which recognized her leadership and innovation in the dealmaking community and her advocacy for equity, diversity and inclusion. She has been recognized as a Mergers & Acquisitions and Antitrust Trailblazer by the *National Law Journal*, and is consistently included in the *Crain's Chicago Business* annual

list of Chicago's Notable Women Lawyers and named to the Legal 500 United States guide. Smith also is a member of the corporate board of directors of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago and founding member of the organization's guild board, which drives fundraising.

"As a member of the board and practice leader, I take seriously this new role in representing the firm's Corporate partners and their clients and want to thank Mark for his leadership and dedication," Smith said. "Our Corporate group has the highest skilled attorneys working on some of the most strategic and complex transactions in the industry, and I look forward to helping the firm continue to capitalize on our momentum."

During Grossmann's tenure as global chair, he oversaw hundreds of transactions in the United States and around the world. He recently led the legal team that advised on the historic transaction that made Curaleaf the biggest cannabis company in the world. In addition to growing his practice, Grossmann will serve as Head of Business Transactions for the firm where he will spearhead the development of client relationships, enhance client service and carry on with first chairing transactions for our clients. He will also continue to pursue numerous civic and charitable endeavors both personally and on behalf of Katten.

Katten is a full-service law firm with nearly 650 attorneys in locations across the United States and in London and Shanghai. Clients seeking sophisticated, high-value legal services turn to Katten for counsel locally, nationally and internationally. The firm's core areas of practice include corporate, financial markets and funds, insolvency and restructuring, intellectual property, litigation, real estate, structured finance and securitization, transactional tax planning, private credit and private wealth. Katten represents public and private companies in numerous industries, as well as a number of government and nonprofit organizations and individuals. For more information, visit [katten.com](http://katten.com).

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