

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lee & Hayes names Cross firm's first CEO
Cross to manage growth; co-founders to focus on strategic initiatives

SPOKANE, Wash. – Lee & Hayes, pllc, announced today it has hired Shaun Cross as CEO, a newly established role for the dynamic and growing national IP law firm.

Recent attorney hires and expansion of services have led Lee & Hayes to implement a new management structure that will better enable the firm to serve clients as it grows. The firm employs over 40 attorneys and patent agents in Spokane and Seattle offices. Its services have extended beyond core patent capabilities to include technology transactions and licensing, portfolio counseling, and IP analytical and counseling services.

“Shaun shares our vision of developing a world-class, global IP firm headquartered in Spokane,” said Lewis Lee, who co-founded the firm with Dan Hayes in 1994. “With Lee & Hayes poised for future growth, now is the right time in the firm’s evolution to formally define a CEO role and add top management talent.”

Lee & Hayes is a nationally recognized IP law firm specializing in development and commercialization of IP portfolios for large multinational corporations. The firm has received national industry recognition, including a top ranking for quality computer and software patents from American Lawyer magazine.

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Lee & Hayes represents six of the 20 largest patent filers in the U.S. Microsoft, Hewlett Packard, and Boeing have each named Lee & Hayes as a “go-to” firm. Telect, Pearson Packaging, and Pyrotek are among the firm’s locally based clients.

“This is an unparalleled chance for me to help build a firm that serves the greatest clients and attracts the best people while leveraging the advantages of operating from a growing mid-market city,” Cross said.

Cross, who begins his new position on March 3, will work with the Lee & Hayes management team to guide the firm’s day-to-day operations. Both Hayes and Lee will focus on strategic initiatives to lead the firm’s next phase of growth. Hayes will focus on developing innovative technical solutions to improve management and delivery of legal services. Lee will focus on business development and new IP-related client services.

“There are many exciting opportunities as IP becomes increasingly important to companies throughout the world,” Hayes said. “As Lee & Hayes handles large and complex global IP portfolios, there is a growing need for systems solutions to manage this work.”

Cross brings extensive law firm management experience to Lee & Hayes and is recognized nationally as a corporate attorney. He joins the firm from Paine Hamblen LLP, where he served as managing partner for six years and on the firm’s executive committee for over a decade.

“Shaun’s experience in attracting and motivating top talent and in executing strategic plans that build successful businesses make him the right choice to lead Lee & Hayes,” Lee said.

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Cross also has an extraordinary record of civic leadership. A Spokane resident for nearly 30 years, he serves on the boards of Whitworth University, Washington State University Applied Sciences Laboratory, the George Nethercutt Foundation, and Washington Policy Center. He has served as chair-elect and board member of the Spokane Regional Chamber of Commerce and chair of the Spokane Public Facilities District.

Lee & Hayes has also been adding to its human resources, operations, and IT staff to meet increasing client requests. The firm employs over 65 people.

Founded on the vision of delivering quality, customized IP legal services in a timelier, more efficient and responsive manner, Lee & Hayes has been recognized as a legal industry leader in the business of IP. The firm offers tailored patent and transactional services that integrate seamlessly with a client's business objectives. Visit www.leehayes.com for more information.