

## MMM Strengthens Highly-Ranked Hospitality Practice – Adds Partner Samantha Ahuja

Washington, D.C. (January 2017) – Samantha Ahuja has joined Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP as a Partner in the Hospitality and Commercial Real Estate Development & Finance practices. Molly Kacheris, an associate who has worked closely with Ahuja over the past several years, also is joining MMM. Ahuja and Kacheris both will be resident in the firm’s Washington D.C. office.

“Our Hospitality practice has doubled in size in the past two years, and closed some of the highest profile hotel transactions in the country,” said MMM Managing Partner Louise Wells. “We are delighted to welcome Samantha and Molly, as we continue to expand our platform in the industry.” Ahuja’s arrival follows the firm’s recent promotion of David Reina in D.C. and Catherine Morgen in Atlanta, members of the firm’s Hospitality practice, to the partnership effective Jan. 1.

MMM’s Real Estate Group is in Tier 1 of the 2017 U.S. News - Best Lawyers® Best Law Firms national rankings, with the Hospitality Group in the Top Tier for Washington. Chambers USA recognized the Real Estate Group and several of its partners, including Carol Weld King, who has been nationally recognized in the Hospitality category for a number of years.

“Samantha has worked on a number of award-winning projects and has received tremendous recognition on her own for her innovative work,” Weld King said. “She has a wonderful reputation, and we know she and Molly will add even more power and depth to our team.”

Ahuja advises domestic and international clients on hotel and resort acquisitions and dispositions; operations; development and finance; franchise, management, casino, restaurant, licensing and branding agreements; and a range of other commercial real estate matters. The national legal publication Law360 honored her as one of its Rising Stars in Hospitality in 2014 and 2015.

She was primary legal counsel for 1415 Girard Street Cooperative, honored as one of The Washington Business Journal's Best Real Estate Deals of 2012, and the Housing Association of Nonprofit Developers' Best Small Affordable Housing Project. The Washington Business Journal named her a Rising Star in its Greater Washington Legal Champions competition in 2014.

Ahuja is also committed to serving the community. On a pro bono basis, she represents multiple affordable housing tenant associations and cooperatives in the District of Columbia in preserving their affordability and in various financing matters. She also volunteers for Junior Achievement and several other nonprofits, and belongs to the South Asian Bar Association and Women’s Bar Association. She

earned her B.S. degree from American University, and her J.D., cum laude, from Valparaiso University School of Law.

#### About Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP

Morris, Manning & Martin ([www.mmmlaw.com](http://www.mmmlaw.com)) is an AmLaw 200 law firm with national and international reach. We dedicate ourselves to the constant pursuit of our clients' success. To provide our clients with optimal value, we combine market-leading legal services with a total understanding of their needs to maximize effectiveness, efficiency and opportunity. MMM enjoys national prominence for its real estate, corporate, litigation, technology, healthcare, intellectual property, energy & infrastructure, capital markets, environmental, international trade, insurance, and timberland & forest products practices. MMM has offices in and around Atlanta, Raleigh-Durham, Savannah and Washington, D.C. The firm also has a business development office in Beijing, China and a strategic alliance office in São Paulo, Brazil.

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