

## Lewis Brisbois Acquires Texas Law Firm

**By Joanna Lin**

Daily Journal Staff Writer

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Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith on Wednesday announced the acquisition of Adams & Heald, a Texas-based trial defense firm.

All seven partners and four associates from Adams & Heald are joining Lewis Brisbois, effective Nov 1.

The acquisition marks the first foray into Texas for Lewis Brisbois. A Los Angeles-origin firm, Lewis Brisbois has more than 700 attorneys in 19 offices in Arizona, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Nevada, New York and West Virginia.

“This helps bridge a geographic gap between the West Coast and the East Coast,” said Kent Adams, chairman of Adams & Heald who will be Texas managing partner for Lewis Brisbois.

Bob Lewis, founding partner for Lewis Brisbois, said both firms have similar clients, including AIG, that need representation in Texas. Lewis also said Adams & Heald attorneys will help expand the firm’s insurance practice.

“Their insurance practice mirrors our insurance practice, and they’ve got some key people there,” he said.

Both firms said they hoped their similar client base would make for a smooth marriage, in representing clients as well as firm culture.

Conn’s Appliances, Fluor Corporation and ENGlobal Engineering Inc. are among the major clients Adams & Heald will keep as it joins Lewis Brisbois, Adams said. Adams and Lewis declined to comment on the value of Adams & Heald’s book of business.

Adams said the firms have been working on the acquisition for about three years and have gotten to know each other well. Legal search firm Esquire, Inc., in Woodland Hills brought the firms together, he said.

Adams & Heald will maintain its existing offices in Houston and Beaumont, Texas. Adams and Lewis said the firm plans to hire more attorneys in Texas, as well as expand to more locations in the state.

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