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Ex-Delphi IP Counsel Heads To Cantor Colburn

By Melissa Lipman

Law360, New York (November 17, 2009) -- Delphi Corp.'s former lead intellectual property counsel for its multibillion-dollar powertrain systems division has left the company to join Cantor Colburn LLP as a partner in the boutique firm's Detroit office.

After more than two decades working as in-house counsel, Paul L. Marshall started on Oct. 1 at Cantor Colburn, where he will focus on patent portfolio development and intellectual property transactions, the firm said Monday.

During his six years at Delphi, Marshall worked as division IP counsel and lead IP counsel for the powertrain unit. He handled the company's domestic and international intellectual property portfolios and helped the company to develop its portfolios in technologies ranging from powertrain mechanisms to medical devices.

He has also done much work on mergers and acquisitions, writing technology transfer and other IP agreements for the company.

"Paul has been a valued contributor at Delphi on a number of important endeavors for the company," said Thomas N. Twomey, the assistant general counsel for intellectual property at Delphi Holdings LLP. "We look forward to working with him in his new role at Cantor Colburn."

Marshall cited his decade of experience with Cantor Colburn as one of the reasons for his move into private practice.

Since 1986, the attorney has handled legal work for a range of companies including Eastman Kodak Co., BASF Corp. and Honeywell International Inc.

He began sending work to Cantor Colburn while at Honeywell and "was very happy with the quality of the work and the value" the firm provided.

"I had had discussions with Phil Colburn about the possibility of coming on board here," Marshall said. "It just seemed like the right move at the right time."

At the firm, Marshall has continued to work on matters for Delphi but plans to diversify his practice to encompass other companies and industries.

"For sure automotive will be a major area of focus, [but] I'm looking forward to trying to expand my focus into the chemical field, which I worked on fairly substantially earlier in my career with Eastman-Kodak and with BASF," Marshall said.



Marshall's technical background is in chemical work, and he also has experience with patents for solid oxide fuel cells, fuel injection, emission control, imaging technology, fuel delivery systems and catalyst technologies.

"We are excited that Paul is joining Cantor Colburn," said Philmore H. Colburn II. Colburn further described Marshall's experience working on IP transfer and licensing matters as "a major asset to the Detroit team and to the firm."

"I'm very happy to be here," Marshall said. "I was always very happy using [Cantor Colburn's] services while I was an in-house attorney and I look forward to being able to provide those services now that I'm on board here."

Marshall earned his undergraduate degree magna cum laude from University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in 1980, completed his masters of business administration from the University of Rochester in 1987 and graduated with honors from the George Washington University Law School in 1986.

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