

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**HEALTH CARE PARTNER JOINS  
DAVIS WRIGHT TREMAINE'S LOS ANGELES OFFICE**

**LOS ANGELES, CA – DEC. 1, 2006** – Health care attorney, Robert Layton, has joined the national law firm of Davis Wright Tremaine LLP as a partner. Formerly a partner in the Los Angeles office of Sheppard Mullin Richter & Hampton LLP, Layton has more than 30 years of experience representing health care organizations with commercial litigation matters, RICO, fraud abuse, health care regulation, professional liability, insurance coverage, medical staff and peer review, physician licensing, consent and bio-ethics. Layton's clients have included some of the nation's largest hospital systems, provider groups, IPAs and other healthcare organizations. "Bob's vast experience and knowledge of the industry is a perfect complement to our national health care practice," said Robert G. Homchick, chair of Davis Wright Tremaine's health care practice. "We are always looking for first rate lawyers to join our firm and Bob is a perfect fit."

"We are thrilled to have Bob on board," said Richard Ellingsen, Davis Wright Tremaine's Managing Partner. "He is well-known and respected within the Southern California health care community and brings additional depth and breadth to our national health care practice."

A graduate of University of California -Davis (B.A. and J.D.), Layton has been a frequent speaker at a number of health care conferences, including events hosted by the American Hospital Association and the California Academy of Family Physicians. "I am very pleased about joining DWT," said Layton, "and adding to their exemplary reputation as a quality legal provider to the health care industry."

Davis Wright Tremaine LLP is a national business and litigation law firm with more than 420 attorneys in nine offices. Based in our Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Anchorage, and Washington, D.C. offices, our health care practice comprises more than 60 attorneys who counsel industry clients across the nation.

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