

Reed Smith Welcomes Insurance Recovery Litigator in San Francisco

(April 24, 2008, San Francisco, CA)—Reed Smith's expansion in both its San Francisco office and international Insurance Recovery practice continued today with the addition of new Of Counsel **Cristina Shea**.

Shea joins Reed Smith from Morgan Lewis, where she had been since the 2003 liquidation of Brobeck, Phelger & Harrison LLP, where she'd been an associate for eight years.

Shea is the sixth lateral to join Reed Smith's west coast operations in recent months from Morgan Lewis, and five of those six have joined the Insurance Recovery team, including partners **David Halbreich** and **Doug Rawles** in Los Angeles, and partner **David Weiss** and associate **Megan Demeter** in San Francisco. Shea, who worked closely with Weiss and Demeter at Morgan Lewis looks forward to continuing that work at Reed Smith.

"I am excited to be reunited with Cristina," says Weiss. "I have worked with her for many years, and getting her to join Reed Smith has been one of my top priorities since joining the firm late last year. Cristina and Megan add to the strong practice that we are building in California. They are helping greatly with our current caseload and are both great lawyers who will help grow the practice even more."

Shea's practice focuses on insurance coverage litigation, representing corporate policyholders in matters involving third-party liability and first-party property damage. She has also represented clients in a variety of liability claims, including environmental and remediation liability, directors and officers (D&O) liability, securities fraud claims, and general liability.

Building a top tier Insurance Recovery practice is high priority for Reed Smith. Partners **Tom Marrinson** (Chicago) and **Peter Hardy** (London) also left Morgan Lewis earlier this year to join Reed Smith's Insurance Recovery practice. The firm also welcomed 20 attorneys to the group in its New York, Chicago and Philadelphia offices as part of its 55-attorney acquisition from the firm of Anderson Kill & Olick in January. **John Vishneski**, a former managing partner from Mayer Brown, also recently joined the Reed Smith's insurance recovery team in the firm's Chicago office. With these additions, Reed Smith's recovery practice has grown to more than 60 lawyers throughout the US and UK.

Shea earned her J.D. from University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law in 1995, where she was awarded Order of the Barrister for Excellency in Trial Advocacy. She also holds a B.A. in political science from U.C., Berkeley.