

## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Fried Frank Continues Growth of Real Estate Department, Welcomes Andrew B. Levine**

New York, April 26, 2019 – Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP announced today that Andrew B. Levine has joined the Firm as senior counsel in the Real Estate Department. He will be based in the Firm's New York office.



Mr. Levine has extensive experience, both as a senior banking executive and as an attorney, in commercial real estate finance, acquisitions, asset management, and restructurings across the risk spectrum, credit cycles, and asset classes. At Fried Frank, Mr. Levine will advise clients on all aspects of commercial real estate finance transactions, including loan structuring, capital markets, multi-tiered senior/sub structures, and workouts and restructurings, with particular expertise in complex structured financings and construction loans. Prior to joining Fried Frank, Mr. Levine was a managing director and the Head of Portfolio Lending & Underwriting at the French bank, Natixis. As a long-standing member of the real estate executive committee, Mr. Levine was instrumental in the strategic development, originations, execution, and management of the bank's real estate finance platform in the Americas. He was previously a real estate partner at the boutique law firm, Katsky Korins LLP.

"We are pleased to welcome Andy to the Firm and to our elite Real Estate Department, which continues to expand to meet the growing needs of our clients," said David J. Greenwald, chairman of Fried Frank. "Andy's experience is a welcome complement to the diversified experience of our team."

Within the last year, the Firm has represented lending clients on a number of noteworthy real estate finance transactions, including Blackstone Mortgage Trust, Inc. in its US\$1.8 billion financing for Tishman Speyer's construction of The Spiral, a 2.8 million square foot office building located in the Hudson Yards neighborhood of New York City; and The Children's Investment Fund in connections with its US\$290 million construction financing for the development of a Four Seasons Hotel and Residences in New Orleans.

"Andy's blend of client-side experience and executive-level insight will provide us with an in-depth level of understanding of our clients' most complex needs," said Jonathan L. Mechanic, chair of the Firm's Real Estate Department. "We look forward to working with Andy, and I am pleased to welcome him to the Firm and to the Real Estate Department."

Mr. Levine's arrival follows that of real estate partner Stuart A. Barr and tax partner Cameron N. Cosby,

both of whom focus on REIT work. The Firm also recently welcomed tax partner Libin Zhang who will also focus on real estate-related tax transactions. In recent months, Fried Frank also announced the promotion of real estate partners Suzanne deVries Decker and Cyril Touchard as well as real estate special counsel Kabaye Liku and Wesley O'Brien.

Mr. Levine received his J.D. from New York University School of Law, where he was on the editorial staff of the *Journal of International Law and Politics*. He received his B.A., with distinction, from Binghamton University, where he was nominated to Phi Beta Kappa.

### **About Fried Frank**

Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP advises the world's leading corporations, investment funds and financial institutions on their most critical legal needs and business opportunities. The Firm's approximately 500 lawyers are based in North America and Europe. More information can be found at [www.friedfrank.com](http://www.friedfrank.com).