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PRESS RELEASE

**Experienced Business and Employment Litigator Joins
Cohen Williams LLP's Elite Trial Lawyers**

Cohen Williams LLP is proud to announce that Roya Ladan, most recently senior associate at King & Spalding LLP and previously at Boies Schiller LLP, has joined the firm as counsel. Before entering private practice, Roya was a trial attorney for the State of California, Department of Fair Employment and Housing, where she investigated and prosecuted civil rights cases including employment and housing discrimination and Unruh Act cases.

Over the last eight years, Roya has represented both large and small businesses and organizations, as well as individuals, in complex commercial litigation, including partnership and contractual disputes, breaches of fiduciary duties, fraud, and defamation. Roya has developed a particular expertise in advising, prosecuting, and defending employment actions (involving both individual plaintiffs and class and collective actions) in connection with wage and hour disputes, the Fair Labor Standards Act, the California Private Attorneys General Act, misclassification, employment discrimination, retaliation, sexual harassment, and whistleblower actions. Roya has first-chaired numerous jury trials and administrative hearings.

“I’m thrilled to join CW. All of the lawyers at CW and I share the desire to practice law in a highly collaborative, constantly creative, and profoundly client-centered environment.”

Cohen Williams was recently named one of Los Angeles’s top boutique law firms. In addition to its highly regarded and robust criminal defense practice, which is led by five former Deputy Federal Public Defenders (Reuven Cohen, Alyssa Bell, Rachel Rossi, Gabriel Pardo, and recent addition Michael Schafner) and former Assistant United States Attorney Jennifer Resnik, CW boasts an extensive complex civil litigation practice, led by Managing Partner Marc Williams, and a rapidly-expanding employment law practice, led by Kathleen Erskine. “It’s a talented group and I’ve seen how they leverage their trial skills across both civil and criminal cases,” Roya added.

Katy, who founded and leads CW’s employment practice, explains: “We feel so lucky to have Roya join our firm. Roya is an extremely talented and driven lawyer. Her judgment, confidence, and determination make her a formidable adversary; her compassion, communication skills, and strategic vision make her a trusted and successful trial lawyer.”

Early in her career, Roya clerked for the Honorable Gail Standish. “Roya’s clerkship began after she

served as a trial attorney for the State of California. I was thrilled to hire a law clerk who was coming in with real trial experience. What I did not know then – but I know now – I was also getting a law clerk who had excellent judgment and legal abilities, could be counted on to get the job done well every time, and would become a trusted and valued member of my team. To this day, I count Roya as a trusted confidant, and wholeheartedly believe that she is one of the most talented courtroom attorneys I’ve had the pleasure to know.”

Roya’s former colleague, Arwen Johnson, a partner at King & Spalding in Los Angeles, practiced with Roya since 2018. “Plain and simple: Roya is a star. She is brilliant and absolutely tireless. She is also one of the kindest people I know. Her clients love her because she really listens. They know she will go to the mat for them.”

In addition to continuing to build her own practice and helping to broaden and develop CW’s criminal and civil trial practices, Roya looks forward to helping CW manage its growth. CW was founded in 2014 as a three-lawyer firm. The firm now includes 15 lawyers and staff members. Managing Partner Marc Williams says: “We are fortunate to be extremely busy. As a boutique law firm, we have always been able to provide excellent service to our clients because we are nimble, efficient, and flexible. However, we are growing because our caseload continues to increase: our current clients continue to ask us to represent them in new matters and new clients are asking us to help them with interesting and exciting challenges.”

Roya is also a valued member of the Los Angeles legal community outside of her regular practice. She will continue to serve on the Pro Bono Council for Inner City Law Center and the Young Lawyers Division of the Association of Business Trial Lawyers.