



Gray Plant Mooty Adds Ryan Palmer and Lavon Emerson-Henry to Global Franchise Practice

March 2, 2016

MINNEAPOLIS (March 2, 2016) — Gray Plant Mooty is pleased to announce that attorneys Ryan Palmer and Lavon Emerson-Henry have joined its Franchise & Distribution practice group, practicing in the firm's Minneapolis office.

"The global reach and wide-ranging expertise of Gray Plant Mooty's franchising practice will become even stronger with the addition of Ryan and Lavon to our team," said John Fitzgerald, co-chair of Gray Plant Mooty's Franchise & Distribution Practice Group. "We believe Gray Plant Mooty will be a perfect fit for Ryan and Lavon, and our clients will greatly appreciate the practical experience they will add to our franchise practice."

Both Palmer and Emerson-Henry serve domestic and international franchisors across the restaurant, hospitality, retail, and service sectors. They counsel brand and concept owners in the development of franchise and distribution systems and help businesses resolve disputes with franchisees and licensees.

Palmer's experience includes extensive work in franchise finance and intellectual property matters. He has been listed repeatedly in *Franchise Times'* annual "Legal Eagles" rankings, which recognize the top franchise attorneys in the country. In addition, he has been recognized by his legal peers as a "Rising Star" in the pages of *Minnesota Super Lawyers* magazine. Emerson-Henry brings over 30 years of franchise law experience, focusing primarily on franchise registration and disclosure.

"Our practice group is extremely excited to welcome attorneys with the experience, knowledge, and reputation in franchising that Ryan and Lavon possess," says Fitzgerald. "Their decision to join our Minneapolis office is an indication of our ongoing commitment to provide our franchisor clients with the greatest expertise and depth in the franchise legal industry."

With the addition of Palmer and Emerson-Henry, GPM's Franchise & Distribution practice group grows to 38 attorneys in Minneapolis and Washington, D.C., reinforcing the firm's position as a top provider of legal services to franchisors across the globe at all stages of their development. Its energetic and diverse group of lawyers and paralegals works in a collaborative environment to bring clients a wide range of experience in every facet of domestic and international franchising.



About Gray Plant Mooty

Gray Plant Mooty is recognized as one of the leading corporate law firms in Minnesota and one of the top franchise firms in the world. Our roots go back to 1866. Today, we are a 180-attorney, full-service firm with offices in Minneapolis and St. Cloud, Minn., Fargo, N.D., and Washington, D.C. Our attorneys and staff provide exceptional client service and value to our clients, and directly or with our global affiliations, we provide comprehensive legal services on a regional, national, and global basis. Learn more at www.gpmlaw.com and www.gpmlaw150.com.