

## Former U.S. Attorney John Wood to Join Hughes Hubbard's White-Collar Criminal and International Anti-Corruption Practices

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**Washington, D.C. March 23, 2009** — Hughes Hubbard & Reed announced today that John F. Wood, former U.S. Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, will join the firm as a partner in its Washington, D.C. office.

Mr. Wood will enhance Hughes Hubbard's considerable internal-investigation capabilities and add significant bench strength to the firm and the office, Kevin Abikoff, chair of the Firm's anti-corruption practice group and co-chair of its securities litigation group, said. "John Wood combines great intellectual acumen with demonstrated professional experience and judgment that will well serve our clients, particularly when it comes to managing through the most difficult problems they face – be they litigation or governmental investigations," Abikoff added.

For the past two years, Mr. Wood has served as the chief law enforcement official for the Western District of Missouri. During his tenure, the U.S. Attorney's Office brought some of the most important and complex cases in the history of the district. Mr. Wood personally led an accounting and securities fraud investigation of a publicly traded corporation, resulting in a multi-million dollar corporate fine and guilty pleas by the former CEO and CFO. He also supervised high-profile cases involving: charges of importation of tainted pet food ingredients from China; alleged money laundering by a former U.S. congressman; international tax fraud; and steroid trafficking. He served on the U.S. Attorney General's advisory committees on White Collar Crime and National Security.

As U.S. Attorney, Mr. Wood has been particularly active in the area of national security. He created a Terrorism & National Security Unit within the U.S. Attorney's Office and targeted crimes – such as terrorist financing, money laundering and identity theft – that enable terrorist networks to operate. Most notably, he supervised the investigation of the Islamic-American Relief Agency. The IARA was indicted for allegedly sending money to Pakistan to benefit a terrorist who has pledged holy war against the United States and has engaged in terrorist acts for al Qaeda and the Taliban.

Previously, Mr. Wood was the Chief of Staff for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, advising Secretary Michael Chertoff. He has also held several high-level positions at the Department of Justice, including Deputy Associate Attorney General and Counselor to the Attorney General. He worked at the White House as Deputy General Counsel for the Office of Management & Budget. Earlier in his career, Mr. Wood



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practiced commercial and appellate litigation in the Washington, D.C. office of a national law firm.

Mr. Wood served as a law clerk for Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas and for Judge J. Michael Luttig on the United States Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, after receiving his J.D., *magna cum laude*, from Harvard Law School (1996), where he served as Articles Chair of the *Harvard Law Review*. He received his B.A., with honors, from the University of Virginia (1992).

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP has offices in New York, Washington, D.C., Los Angeles, Miami, Jersey City, Paris, and Tokyo and over 30 specialized practices. The firm is ranked #6 in the “top firms among the nation’s legal elite,” by *The American Lawyer*, as well as #4 in “Top Growth Firms” among the nation’s 200 largest firms over the last 10 years.

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