

International Trade Practice Group Joins Hughes Hubbard

Serves as Lead Defense in U.S. – Canada Softwood Lumber Battle

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New York, N.Y., February 3, 2011 — Joanne Osendarp, an authority on international trade law who has for many years represented Canada in what *The Economist* called the “biggest trade battle on the planet,” has joined Hughes Hubbard as a partner. Formerly, Ms. Osendarp was a partner at Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, where she co-chaired the international trade and arbitration group. She joins Hughes Hubbard as a member of its highly-rated International Trade Department. John Ryan, formerly counsel at Weil, Gotshal, has also joined Hughes Hubbard as counsel in the International Trade Department.

Ms. Osendarp has distinguished herself in international legal circles as the Government of Canada’s principal U.S.-based lawyer in Canada’s high-profile, ongoing softwood lumber dispute with the United States. Canada is the United States’ largest trading partner, and softwood lumber exports have been the longest-running point of friction between the two countries.

As Canada’s lawyer, Ms. Osendarp has led Canada’s legal team in numerous negotiations and dispute resolution proceedings, heading up internal and outside counsel teams. Most recently she has been lead counsel in a number of LCIA arbitrations arising out of the Softwood Lumber Agreement 2006. She was also co-lead in the multiple investigations, administrative reviews; and related NAFTA, WTO and Court of International Trade appeals connected to the “Lumber IV” softwood lumber dispute.

Chambers has called Ms. Osendarp a “brilliant” lawyer who “knows the material inside and out when she works on a case.” In its most recent edition, *Chambers USA* noted her “exhaustive understanding of both international law and trade law.”

“Joanne is considered a leader and gifted strategist by lawyers who have worked with her,” said Amanda DeBusk, chair of Hughes Hubbard’s International Trade Department. “Adding Joanne and John to the existing trade group at Hughes Hubbard makes us one of the largest international trade practices.”

Mr. Ryan has represented multinational corporations and the Government of Canada before the U.S. Department of Commerce, the U.S. International Trade Commission, the Court of International Trade, NAFTA and WTO panels. Most recently, he represented the major Mexican producers in the U.S. antidumping investigation of copper tubing and is currently representing Canada in the ongoing LCIA arbitrations between Canada and the United States.

Hughes Hubbard’s International Trade Department specializes in international trade regulation and litigation, including U.S. export controls and sanctions, trade remedies, trade and customs laws, NAFTA, the WTO and bilateral and regional free trade agreements.



One of the reasons that Ms. Osendarp and Mr. Ryan chose to join Hughes Hubbard was to combine their international trade expertise and experience with Hughes Hubbard's commanding position in the field of international arbitration. John Townsend, the co-chair of Hughes Hubbard's Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution Practice Group, will head up the arbitration team working with Ms. Osendarp and Mr. Ryan on the arbitration aspects of future disputes.

Candace Beinecke, the chair of Hughes Hubbard, said, "We are thrilled that Joanne and John are joining forces with our top notch international trade and international arbitration practices. We welcome the addition of this group to our highly successful and growing practice groups."

Ms. Osendarp's and Mr. Ryan's arrival will add a new dimension to the government experience of the trade practice. Ms. Osendarp previously worked for the Government of Canada as senior counsel to the Departments of Justice and Foreign Affairs and International Trade. While with the Government of Canada, she was lead counsel for all institutional issues relating to NAFTA generally, including subsidies and dumping actions, safeguards, and section 301 actions. She also negotiated and drafted the Softwood Lumber Agreement 1996, the Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement, the Internal Trade Agreement and was counsel to Canada for the negotiation of the NAFTA. Ms. Osendarp received her B.A. and M.A. from York University in Toronto and her L.L.B. from the University of Ottawa.

Mr. Ryan formerly served as a senior official with the U.S. International Trade Commission. While there, he advised the Commission on all matters relating to import relief laws, drafted recommended changes in tariffs and quotas to the President and prepared economic studies of international trade as requested by Congress. Mr. Ryan received his B.A. with distinction from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, his M.A. in economics from George Washington University, and his J.D. *cum laude* from Georgetown University Law Center.

Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP is an international law firm ranked #2 nationally on *The American Lawyer's* A-List of the "top firms among the nation's legal elite." The firm was founded in 1888 by eminent jurist and statesman Charles Evans Hughes.

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