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Romer Debbas Appoints Real Estate Group Leaders



Stephen W. Allen, Michael R. Feldman, Jonathan Helfer

Romer Debbas LLP, a boutique law firm specializing in real estate and general practice in New York City, has named three partners as co-managers of the firm's residential real estate department.

Partners Jonathan Helfer, Stephen W. Allen and Michael R. Feldman will jointly run the group of 17 professionals who handle all aspects of residential matters for high-profile clients across business, finance, entertainment and sports, the firm said in a statement on Monday.

Last year was a big year for the firm, which merged with Katz & Matz PC, a firm specializing in residential real estate matters, in July 2022.

The merger brought Bruce D. Katz and Steven Matz, principals of Katz & Matz, as partners and a team of 18 lawyers, paralegals and assistants to Romer Debbas to form a new firm with 35 lawyers and 22 staff members.

Romer Debbas claims, as a result of the merger, to have the largest dedicated residential real estate practice in the Big Apple.

Helfer, one of the three new managers, was a partner at Katz & Matz prior to the merger between the two firms.

He has handled thousands of residential and commercial real estate deals and transactions over the past 15 years. Outside the law firm, he also speaks at brokerage offices and leads continuing education classes.

Helfer told Law360 Pulse on Tuesday that his new position is exciting and an opportunity for the firm's attorneys to expand their roles, and not only internally.

"It's really an opportunity to expand what we do with the firm and to also better serve our clients and really provide them with the utmost level of service that we possibly can," Helfer said.

One of his personal goals as a manager is to work with both attorneys and staff internally to allow them to reach their goals and continue to both grow and thrive in the industry.

Allen was another one of the attorneys that joined Romer Debbas when the two firms merged. He spent nearly a decade at Katz & Matz before it became part of Romer Debbas.

"In my 20 years in this field, I have never run across more knowledgeable and thoughtful attorneys than Jon and Michael," Allen said in a statement. "I look forward to taking the reins of the transactional department with them. The sky truly is the limit."

Allen has 20 years of experience in the real estate field and helps clients with purchase and sale transactions. He is licensed to practice law in Connecticut and New York and is certified by the New York Department of State to teach continuing education courses to residential real estate agents, the firm said.

Feldman, who joined Romer Debbas in 2011 as a senior associate before making partner in 2018, represents buyers, sellers and lending institutions in residential and commercial real estate transactions, the firm said.

"I have spent the majority of my professional career at Romer Debbas and am extremely gratified to have the opportunity to co-manage what is now New York City's largest and most visible residential real estate practice," Feldman said in a statement. "I look forward to continuing the tradition of excellence that we have established here at Romer Debbas with my fellow managers, Stephen Allen and Jonathan Helfer."

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