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Browne George Ross names new leader amid growth spurt

By **Gina Kim**

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Browne George Ross LLP, which has been in a growth spurt, now has a new managing partner. Leaders said it was part of a strategy to situate the litigation boutique for future generations.

Litigator Keith J. Wesley took the reins of the 50-lawyer firm last month.

“It’s a really exciting time over here right now, especially because we’ve grown in numbers and have some real superstars on staff,” Wesley said.

The firm, which has offices in downtown Los Angeles, Century City, San Francisco and New York, has among its ranks Eric M. George; Nathan J. Hochman, the former head of the U.S. Justice Department’s Tax Division; Thomas P. O’Brien, the former U.S. attorney in Los Angeles; and California Gov. Pete Wilson.

“Since I don’t have him as a brother, managing partner is the next best thing,” George said of Wesley. “Keith’s judgment, litigation skills, loyalty and work ethic combine perfectly to lead the firm into its next generation.”

Wesley has been with the firm since 2007 and practices out of the Century City office. His practice focuses on trademark, copyright, trade secrets, false advertising, unfair competition and class actions.



Justin Stewart / Special to the Daily Journal

Keith Wesley, managing partner, Browne George Ross LLP

Wesley, with partner Peter Ross, won the first website trade dress infringement case ever to go to trial. The jury sided with Wesley’s client Stop Staring! Designs, a Paramount-based manufacturer of vintage 1950s-inspired clothing, on claims competitor Tatyana LLC DBA Bettie Page Clothing attempted to replicate the appearance of Stop Staring’s website.

“This new promotion came about as I’ve become increasingly involved in a management role within the firm, so it’s just naturally evolved into formal-

izing it into an official title,” Wesley said. “We’ve been in a real growth mode in about the last three years. We went from a firm that had about 20 to 30 lawyers, and now we have up to 50.”

“I think the combination of all the new talent really takes us to new heights,” he said. “I’m just honored and thrilled to have the trust of superstar partners who would hand me this responsibility and feel comfortable with me doing it.”

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