



Harter Secret & Emery LLP

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Harter Secret & Emery Announces New Partners

John M. Jennings and Edward H. (Ted) Townsend Elected to the Firm's Partnership

Rochester, New York— January 4, 2021—Harter Secret & Emery LLP (“HSE”), a full-service business law firm with offices throughout New York, is pleased to announce that John M. Jennings from the firm’s Government Affairs practice, and Edward H. (Ted) Townsend from the firm’s Health Care practice have been elected partners in the firm.

“Early in their careers, John and Ted exhibited leadership qualities in their respective areas of practice and the firm,” said Harter Secret & Emery Managing Partner Craig S. Wittlin. “I am thrilled to welcome them to the partnership. They are incredible ambassadors for the firm and our clients and exemplify our exacting service standards.”

As a member of the firm’s Government Affairs practice, Jennings provides lobbying and government affairs services for a diverse group of businesses, professional associations, and nonprofit entities. He has particular experience representing clients in biotechnology, energy, higher education, and other highly regulated industries. Jennings strategizes with clients regarding the availability of and access to a variety of government funding mechanisms and other programs and counseling clients on lobbying and campaign finance rules and regulations.

He is an adjunct instructor in Political Science at Roberts Wesleyan College. He is also active in local politics and volunteers his time at his church and several community organizations. Most recently, he served on the board of directors of Cameron Community Ministries in the City of Rochester.

Jennings is a *magna cum laude* graduate from Roberts Wesleyan College and SUNY Buffalo Law School.

Townsend is a member of the firm's Health Care practice and advises hospitals, health care providers, pharmacies, federally qualified health centers, and other health care facilities and organizations on operational, compliance, and governance matters. His experience includes advising on corporate compliance, HIPAA, fraud and abuse, professional licensure and misconduct issues, the implementation of internal compliance programs, patient-related issues, medical staff issues, and behavioral health matters. He also has significant experience with strategic affiliations, including navigating physician practices and other health care entities through business acquisitions and sales, as well as other collaborative efforts, such as IPA formation and participation. Townsend also regularly counsels clients on contracting matters, including reviewing and negotiating vendor contracts, managed care agreements, and physician employment agreements for physicians at all stages of their careers.

He is a member of the board of directors for Bivona Child Advocacy Center, and is involved with the New York State Bar Association, Business and Health Law Sections, and the American Health Lawyers Association. Townsend has been selected by his peers for inclusion in *The Best Lawyers in America*® in the field of Health Care Law and has been recognized by Super Lawyers on the 2017-2020 Upstate New York Rising Stars list.

Townsend is a graduate of Trinity College and obtained his law degree, *magna cum laude*, from Syracuse University College of Law.

About Harter Secrest & Emery LLP

Harter Secrest & Emery LLP is a full-service business law firm providing legal services to clients ranging from individuals and family-owned businesses to Fortune 100 companies and major regional institutions. With offices in Buffalo, Rochester, Albany, Corning, and New York City, New York, the firm is a recognized leader in litigation, corporate, employee benefits, environmental and land use, health care, higher education, immigration, intellectual property, labor and employment, real estate, and trusts and estates law. Harter Secrest & Emery has 36 *U.S. News - Best Lawyers*® 2021 "Best Law Firms" top tier metropolitan practice group rankings—more Western New York rankings than any other law firm. The firm has been honored by *Chambers USA* for Corporate/M&A, Healthcare, Labor & Employment, Litigation, Immigration and Real Estate law and 49 attorneys are recognized as *The Best Lawyers in America*® for 2021. For more information visit www.hsela.com.

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