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*We are pleased to announce that*

***Brian D. Kerns***

***has joined the firm to open our northeast Ohio office.***

With the opening of our newest office, Mr. Kerns brings to the firm over twenty-five years of insurance defense and attorney management experience in Cleveland, Akron, Canton and northeast Ohio.

For the past eighteen years, Mr. Kerns established and managed a successful house counsel trial office for a national insurer. Mr. Kerns has twenty-five years of successful trial outcomes and litigation resolutions in courts across northern Ohio. In 2011, he was designated an Ohio *Superlawyer*.

Mr. Kerns is a Board Certified Civil Trial Advocate by the National Board of Trial Advocacy, A Fellow of the Council on Litigation Management and a Fellow of the Ohio State Bar Foundation. He currently chairs the Negligence Law Committee for the Ohio State Bar Association and serves on OSBA's Council of Delegates. He also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Association of Civil Trial Attorneys.

He received his Juris Doctor from the University of Toledo College of Law in 1986 and his undergraduate degree, cum laude, from Ohio University in 1982.

With the opening of this new office, we look forward to expanding our insurance and corporate litigation practice, as well as our municipal law, real estate and collections and foreclosure practice groups in northern Ohio.