Joseph Ceccarelli Joins Wilson Elser's NYC Office

National law firm Wilson Elser announces that Joseph J. Ceccarelli has joined the firm's New York City office as a partner. Ceccarelli was a founding and managing partner of Ceccarelli Weprin PLLC, specializing in business and commercial real estate litigation and transactional work. He also served as treasurer for now State Assemblyman David I. Weprin during four consecutive successful election campaigns for Finance Committee Chair of the New York City Council from 2002 through 2009.

"Joe is a welcome addition to our New York City office and our national commercial services team," said Partner Thomas Manisero, chair of the firm's Commercial Services practice. "His experience handling complex commercial transactional and litigation matters will benefit our clients across all industries. His particular specialty in commercial real estate enables us to bolster our capabilities in one of the city's thriving business sectors."

In a release, the firm said:

With a career spanning more than 25 years, Ceccarelli has developed a practice focused on commercial and real estate litigation in federal and state courts. His strengths and roots lie in New York City, representing high-stakes business interests on Wall Street and owners, developers and managers in the city's real estate market.

Among the many services Ceccarelli provides his clients are leasing in office and retail space asset classes; drafting and negotiating service and construction contracts and other building-related agreements; and strategic counsel related to government and regulatory investigations, national and cross-

border portfolio acquisitions, and distressed real estate and related asset management.

He has also gained a reputation as a trusted and valued advisor in supporting the cross-practice corporate and litigation needs of growing enterprise software, music and film production, recording artist and digital advertising businesses.

Among Ceccarelli's civic contributions is his successful *pro bono* prosecution of the New York test case regarding grandparents' rights to raise grandchildren in the event of abandonment by or death of the parents. He also served as president and board member of New York City's Future Condominium from 1995 through 2003, a prominent example of late modernist architecture for international high-rise buildings.

Ceccarelli earned his J.D. degree from Fordham University School of Law and graduated *magna cum laude* from Fordham University with his B.A. degree in economics.

About Wilson Elser

Wilson Elser, a full-service and leading defense litigation law firm (www.wilsonelser.com), serves its clients with nearly 800 attorneys in 27 offices in the United States and one in London and through a network of affiliates in key regions globally. Founded in 1978, it ranks among the top 200 law firms identified by *The American Lawyer* and is included in the top 50 of *The National Law Journal*'s survey of the nation's largest law firms.