

# Stroock Expands National Real Estate Group, Luring Leaders Lorie Soares Lazarus and Peter David Ballance in Los Angeles

Expanding its Los Angeles presence and enhancing its real estate service offerings, Stroock recently welcomed industry leaders Lorie Soares Lazarus and Peter David Ballance as partners in its national practice. Stroock lured the partners from Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP, where Lorie co-chaired the firm's West Coast Real Estate practice and Peter co-chaired the LGBT Coalition.

Lazarus represents institutional equity investors, developers and commercial real estate lenders including banks, investment funds, REITs, investment advisors and asset managers. Ballance counsels lenders, borrowers, developers and property owners in a range of national commercial real estate transactions. Together they have extensive experience in all aspects of commercial real estate financing, guiding both lender and borrower clients through multifaceted projects including securitized, mortgage, mezzanine and construction lending for office, industrial, residential, multifamily, retail and hospitality projects across the country.

The two LA-based partners continue the firm's consistent growth trajectory in key practices. Stroock has welcomed more than 10 senior attorneys to the firm since 2019, with a half-dozen of those in the national real estate practice. The addition of the duo's extensive experience in commercial real estate finance, acquisition and disposition, combined with their strong reputation for distressed real estate counseling,

will strengthen the already robust national real estate platform at Stroock.

With an active presence in the LA real estate market, Stroock represents high-profile clients in sophisticated transactions, such as the recent \$1.2 billion refinancing of the landmark Century Plaza Towers in Los Angeles and the \$750 million sale of CBS' iconic Television City.