

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
January 16, 2013

AALRR Names New Partners

Cerritos, CA (January 16, 2013)--Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo is pleased to announce that **Anthony P. De Marco** has been selected as shareholder, and **Kevin R. Dale**, **William A. Diedrich**, **David A. Soldani**, and **Susan M. Steward**, have become partners with the firm.

Anthony P. De Marco, B.A., University of California, Irvine; J.D., *summa cum laude*, Whittier College School of Law. Tony De Marco represents California public school districts and public agencies in all aspects of labor and employment law. His areas of practice include certificated and classified employee discipline, contract enforcement and arbitration, representation of employers before the Public Employment Relations Board, Department of Fair Employment and Housing, and the Office of Administrative Hearings, as well as general education law. He is experienced in collective bargaining and is the chief negotiator for numerous school districts throughout the state. Mr. De Marco is a member of the firm's public sector wage and hour litigation practice group. As such, he counsels districts and county offices of education regarding the impacts of state and federal law on the compensation of classified and certificated employees. In 2012, for the third consecutive year, Mr. De Marco was named a "Southern California Rising Star" based on a poll of selected Southern California Lawyers. This recognition honors exceptional Southern California attorneys who are under the age of 40.

Kevin R. Dale, B.S., California State University, Fresno. and J.D. from Loyola Law School. Kevin Dale is experienced in counseling and representing public and private sector employers in all aspects of labor and employment law. Mr. Dale also provides general counsel services to public agencies including school districts and community college districts. As an experienced labor negotiator, Mr. Dale represents employers at the bargaining table and has prepared numerous agreements with various types of bargaining units. Mr. Dale has also successfully represented employers in union actions, including unfair practice charges filed with the Public Employment Relations Board and National Labor Relations Board. Mr. Dale's community involvement includes service as a Personnel Commissioner for the City of Clovis and membership in Kiwanis International, and he is a past Legislative Director of the Human Resource Association of Central California. Mr. Dale previously served as a reserve deputy sheriff with the Fresno County Sheriff's Department, and attained the rank of sergeant during his six years of active duty in the U.S. Marine Corps.

William A. Diedrich, B.A., University of Southern California; J.D., McGeorge College of Law (Valedictorian, Order of the Coif). Bill Diedrich represents school districts and other public agencies in labor and employment law. Mr. Diedrich is experienced in collective bargaining, and serves as the chief negotiator for school districts throughout Southern California. He presents before various organizations on collective bargaining, classified employment matters, and other issues of importance to his public sector clients. In addition, he

provides advice on employee discipline, contract negotiation and implementation, unfair practice charges, layoff and reduction in services involving both certificated and classified employees, grievances, DFEH/EEOC complaints, merit systems, and civil litigation.

David A. Soldani, B.A., *magna cum laude*, California State University, Fresno; J.D., with high honors, from San Joaquin College of Law. David Soldani advises public agencies statewide in the areas of election law, board governance, public works and construction, environmental law, and real property transactions. Mr. Soldani also represents private individuals and companies in litigation matters in the areas of labor and employment, construction claims and business disputes. Mr. Soldani regularly provides training to local and statewide organizations on a variety of topics including construction law, solar power transactions, election law, (including the California Voting Rights Act, territory transfers and parcel taxes), and board governance issues.

Susan M. Steward, B.S., University of Southern California; M.B.A., University of La Verne; J.D., Western State University College of Law where she was valedictorian of her class.

Susan Steward represents employers in both the private and public sector in all areas of labor and employment law, including wrongful discharge, wage and hour violations (including class actions), discrimination/harassment, defamation, and leaves of absences. Ms. Steward handles matters in state and federal courts as well as before various administrative agencies. She also counsels and provides training to clients on a variety of employment issues, including employee discipline, wage and hour compliance, and adherence to federal and state family and medical leave laws. Ms. Steward regularly drafts employment agreements, employee compensation plans, personnel policies, and training materials. She conducts workplace harassment/discrimination investigations for public and private sector clients. Ms. Steward volunteers at several non-profit organizations, and currently is a member of the Bishop's Employee Benefits Committee for the Diocese of Orange. She frequently speaks to employers and employer organizations and lectures at various universities on labor and employment issues.

About Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo

AALRR is a full service California law firm with a focus on employment and labor, [education](#), [corporate](#), [real estate](#), and [construction](#) and [litigation](#). We are counsel to more than 400 school districts and public and private universities. Our diverse teams bring a seasoned perspective to California's complex legal landscape for both private and public entities. AALRR maintains offices in [Cerritos](#), [Fresno](#), [Irvine](#), [Pleasanton](#), [Riverside](#), [Sacramento](#), and [San Diego](#). For further information about us, visit our website at <http://www.aalrr.com> or [sign up for key updates](#) or join our blogs <http://www.aalrremploymentlaw.com> and <http://www.aalrreducationlaw.com/>

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