

## **Sugar Felsenthal Grais & Hammer LLP Announces New Name Partners, Growth in Lawyer Ranks**

CHICAGO (January 9, 2012) Sugar Felsenthal Grais & Hammer LLP (“SFGH”), formerly known as Sugar & Felsenthal LLP, has added two name partners: tax partner, Adam J. Grais, and bankruptcy and creditors’ rights partner, Aaron L. Hammer. Douglas J. Antonio has also joined the firm as a partner, bringing his extensive experience in taxation, real estate, affordable housing and community development matters. Attorneys joining the firm’s expanded bankruptcy and creditors’ rights practice include Mark S. Melickian as counsel and associates Michael A. Brandess and Jack R. O’Connor.

“After 30 years of successfully building this firm with Steve Felsenthal, I am proud to have Aaron and Adam establish a springboard for our continued success over the next 30 years,” said founding partner Richard A. Sugar. “The energy and resourcefulness that these two talented attorneys bring to the firm’s clients will assure a continued high level of service in keeping with our firm’s traditions and values,” added Sugar.

Partner Adam J. Grais focuses his practice on federal income tax matters and serving the myriad needs of family offices and businesses. He is a member of the firm’s Federal Tax Planning and Litigation Group, Tax Credit and Affordable Housing Group, and its Business Transactions and Real Estate Group. Prior to joining the firm in 2005, Grais served as in-house counsel to the financial group of the Pritzker family and he continues to provide counsel to the Pritzker interests. Prior to going in-house, Grais worked in the tax department of a large multinational law firm. Grais has also served as a consulting expert witness in complex tax shelter cases and represented clients in tax disputes before the Internal Revenue Service. He received his J.D. from the University of Chicago.

Aaron L. Hammer brings his well-established national bankruptcy practice to SFGH with a broad base of clients including Fortune 500 companies, creditor’s committees and financial institutions. He also frequently represents large corporate debtors, bondholders, hedge funds, receivers, landlords and buyers and sellers of distressed assets in both domestic and crossborder insolvency proceedings. Hammer was named a “Leading Lawyer in Field” by Chambers USA Guide to America’s Leading Lawyers for Business in its 2011 and 2010 publications, recognized by Turnaround & Workouts as an Outstanding Young Restructuring Attorney in 2010 and honored by the Turnaround Management Association with its Large Transaction of the Year award in 2009. Hammer received his J.D., magna cum laude, Order of the Coif, from