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## **New Practice Focuses on Real Estate Tax Relief Mayer Brown Veteran Opens Office**

CHICAGO (June 3, 2009) – Frederick R. Dempsey (photo at right), most recently counsel in Mayer Brown’s Chicago real estate practice, is opening his own office, specializing in property tax issues.

He draws on substantial experience with assessment appeals, certificates of error and incentive classifications: as well as tax deed litigation, exemption petitions, and indemnity fund cases (having recovered nearly two million dollars for owners of real estate lost to tax deeds).

“Changing a property’s assessment can save an owner money not only for the tax year appealed, but throughout the triennial period and even for many years to come, since it resets the base on which mass appraisal systems often set percentage increases for future assessments,” says Dempsey. “And with real estate markets distressed, this is a good time to examine market values in all categories – office buildings, commercial developments, industrial sites, condo buildings and single family homes, especially those with higher valuations.”

Dempsey consults with investors and developers, lenders and bankruptcy attorneys on property tax issues and has broad experience in commercial real estate transactions and the negotiation of commercial leases. He has been an arbitrator in the Lake County, Illinois, court-annexed arbitration program, since it began and his practice has included litigation, corporate, and estate planning matters.

An honors graduate of Loyola University of Chicago, Dempsey earned his law degree at Northwestern University School of Law. He served as legal counsel to the Archdiocese of Chicago, and was a founding partner of Laidley, Sutter, Porter and Dempsey. For nearly eleven years, Dempsey was a senior associate or partner in the real estate department at Gould & Ratner, focusing on property taxation. He became a partner in that department in 2001.

He is a licensed Real Estate Broker, a member of the Chicago, Illinois and American bar associations and active on several non-profit boards.

The Law Office of Frederick R. Dempsey opened June 1 and is located in Suite 1050, at 150 S. Wacker Drive in Chicago, 312-731-3920.

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