



November 27, 2002

Contact Information:
Heather Milligan, Marketing Director
310.440.4852

Christine L. Kopitzke Joins the Law Firm of Hatch & Parent

Santa Barbara, CA. November 27, 2002 – Hatch & Parent is pleased to announce that Intellectual Property attorney Christine L. Kopitzke has joined the firm's Business and Tax Group. Ms. Kopitzke will be based in the firm's Santa Barbara office.

"Chris is a significant addition to our business practice," commented S. Timothy Buynak, practice group leader for Hatch & Parent's Business and Tax Group. "Her experience in trademark, copyright and intellectual property law provides us with an even greater ability to assist our clients."

The firm's Business and Tax Group serves as outside general counsel for mid-range businesses in Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo counties. "Chris's depth of practice is unrivaled in the tri-county area," Mr. Buynak further noted. "She has a specialty that has long been needed and she is a very welcome addition to our community."

Ms. Kopitzke's intellectual property practice will augment the Business and Tax Group's services, which include general corporate counsel representation, contract negotiations, tax and securities law, licensing agreements, mergers and acquisitions.

"I am delighted to continue building my intellectual property practice at Hatch & Parent," Ms. Kopitzke said. "The firm offers a significant opportunity to work with important and interesting clients on the Central Coast and throughout California. Hatch & Parent also provides a strong general practice platform to support my specialized work in trademark copyright law."

Ms. Kopitzke specializes in the area of trademark and copyright counseling and dispute resolution. She has broad experience advising clients in high-technology, Internet, publishing, entertainment, product licensing, financial services, shipping, agriculture and livestock, wine, food service, historic preservation, and other fields on the adoption and use of trademarks and on the protection, licensing, and transfer of trademarks, trade names, copyrights, and domain names in the U.S. and abroad. She regularly represents clients in trademark matters in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, in proceedings before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board, and in negotiations concerning their intellectual property.

"We are delighted to have a lawyer with Chris' knowledge and business experience joining our firm," said Steven A. Amerikaner, Managing Partner of Hatch & Parent. "With her

November 27, 2002

extensive background in intellectual property law, and her prominence in California's IP community, Chris adds a level of expertise to our firm unmatched along the Central Coast."

Ms. Kopitzke is currently a member of the executive committee of the Intellectual Property Section of the State Bar of California and is co-editor of the section's quarterly journal, *New Matter*. She is also an active member of the International Trademark Association, the Copyright Society of the U.S.A., the American Intellectual Property Law Association, and the Intellectual Property Law Section of the American Bar Association.

Ms. Kopitzke comes to Hatch & Parent from the San Francisco office of Bingham McCutchen, where she served as head of the McCutchen's trademark practice for several years. She earned her law degree at Boalt Hall, U.C. Berkeley, and her undergraduate degree at Pomona College in Claremont, California.

Hatch & Parent is a full-service law firm with expertise in business and tax, complex litigation, water, estate planning, employment, real estate and land use, environmental law, and legislative advocacy. In addition to its private client base, Hatch & Parent has a statewide presence representing public agencies as general and special counsel. The firm has offices in Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Diego and South Lake Tahoe.

