

## Skadden Inks New Houston Lease In First Move In 2 Decades

By Lynn LaRowe

*Law360 (March 13, 2025, 4:04 PM EDT)* -- Skadden has signed a lease in Houston's downtown Texas Tower to accommodate a growing headcount and increased client demand.

The firm is taking a combined 52,000 square feet on two floors in the 47-floor building starting in April next year, according to a Wednesday statement from the investment manager, Hines, and the global real estate group of CDPQ, Ivanhoé Cambridge. The firm currently has offices in the Wells Fargo Plaza at 1000 Louisiana St. in the downtown area, where it has been for nearly 20 years, Houston managing partner Noelle Reed told Law360 Pulse in an email Thursday.

Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP's Houston shop, which launched in 1993, primarily serves clients in the energy, financial and petrochemical industries on the transactions side and handles all types of litigation and investigations, according to the firm's website.

Reed, who is managing partner in Houston and leader of the litigation practice there, told Law360 Pulse on Thursday, "Our Houston office is growing rapidly to meet the needs of our clients in the Texas and broader regional markets."

"In the last two years, we've expanded our capabilities in Houston with both internal transfers and strategic lateral hires, including the recent additions of M&A partner Stephen Gill and litigation partner Michelle Scheffler and the expansion of our Houston tax practice with Skadden partner Sean Shimamoto, who transferred from our West Coast offices," Reed said. "We have been in our current space for nearly 20 years, and this move will both expand our footprint to support our continued growth and allow us the opportunity to rethink our office space and incorporate next-generation design to better serve our clients and our people."

Reed said the design and build-out of the Houston space is "well underway" and that the move is expected to happen next year in spring.

"The move gives us the opportunity to design our space from the ground up, which will allow us to provide our lawyers and professional staff with a state-of-the-art space that will in turn enhance their ability to provide exceptional service to our clients," Reed said. "And of course the significant expansion of our footprint is critical to support our continued growth through both internal promotions and key lateral opportunities."

Reed said she expects the headcount in Houston to increase to 56 attorneys and 28 professional staff by

the end of the year.

Texas Tower includes tenant amenities such as a lobby coworking area, outdoor terraces and a lounge, the building's website shows. There is an onsite fitness center and a rooftop garden for tenants only.

The building offers stunning views of downtown Houston and there are countless shopping, dining and entertainment options nearby, according to the Texas Tower website.

Skadden is a global, full-service law firm headquartered in New York operating from 21 offices on four continents. Houston is the firm's single Lone Star State location.

--Editing by Linda Voorhis.

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