

Sidley snags another LA litigator from Manatt

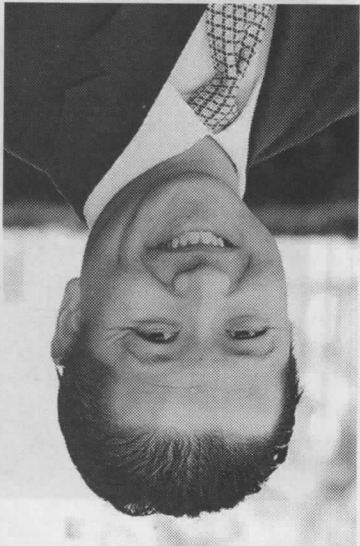
Jack S. Yeh is the third attorney in as many months to make the switch

By Steven Crighton
Daily Journal Staff Writer

Jack S. Yeh, a litigator based in Manatt Phelps & Phillips LLP's Los Angeles office, has joined Sidley Austin LLP's commercial litigation practice as a partner.

Yeh, who represents publicly traded companies and emerging businesses in a wide range of industries, is the third Manatt litigator to make the jump to Sidley in three months. His move follows fellow former Manatt partners Chad Hummel and Clay Friedmann, who started working for Sidley in August.

Dan Clivner, co-managing partner of the firm's Los Angeles office, said that Yeh was the ninth litigator to join the office since December, himself included in May. The increase is no coincidence, Clivner said, as the firm is actively focusing on its trial litigation and appellate practice as part of an effort to increase its overall presence in Los Angeles.



tunities. He's a first chair trial lawyer. That's an asset, a real talent," Clivner noted. Yeh, who started Thursday, said his move to the firm was "a pretty quick process." "It was an opportunity that I just couldn't refuse, with the sort of platform that they have and the synergy with clients that I really wanted," Yeh said. "The opportunity to expand my practice on a global scale was really the impetus for the conversation. The fact that I had a former colleague on the team was just added comfort." John B. Jameson, a legal recruiter with The Jameson Group who facilitated Yeh's move, said Yeh's placement at Sidley was natural based on "a combination of Sidley's prestige and the strength of his practice area." "He was doing extremely well at Manatt. He was very well liked, and the practice area was going well," said Jameson. "But Sidley will enable Jack to take his practice to an entirely different level. His broad trial experience, especially in the energy, environmental and land use areas, really fits Sidley's national practice."

"It's not chaos theory, it's strategic," Clivner said. "We believe in the market and the profitability of the market. So we've been looking out for prolific talent who we feel could benefit from joining us who feel the same way." Yeh said his move wasn't coordinated with Hummel or Friedmann, though Clivner noted that Hummel, the former co-chair of Manatt's trial practice, "spoke very highly of him." "He'll have a platform that is much more global that will introduce him to other litigation oppor-