

COMMERCIAL OBSERVER

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REAL ESTATE

Cassin & Cassin Names Long-time Partner Michael Hurley as Firm's New Leader

Real-Estate law firm **Cassin & Cassin** is kicking off 2018 by promoting from within, elevating longtime partner **Michael Hurley Jr.** to the newly created role of managing partner.

The New York City-based firm, with 34 attorneys divided among offices in New York, Los Angeles and Dallas, specializes in representing real estate lenders who originate debt intended for sponsorship by Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac and the Development of Housing and Urban Development and for commercial mortgage-backed securities transactions.

Hurley's legal work emphasizes property sales and dispositions, mortgage and mezzanine debt and the formation of legal entities for property management.

The firm also runs a small private-client business that assists individuals with estate planning and philanthropy.

Hurley, a graduate of Fordham University Law School who joined Cassin & Cassin in 1992, predicted that his role will represent only a slight shift from his current duties at the firm's New York office, at 711 Third Avenue, between 44th and 45th Streets in East Midtown.

"I've historically spent 20-30 percent of my time on firm administration and business development," Hurley said. "That percentage may increase slightly, but I intend to continue to spend a significant amount of time on legal work."

The firm's founder, Joseph Cassin, agreed with that outlook, explaining that the new title formalizes a leadership position that Hurley has held for some time.

"We've found it necessary for one person to oversee the firm, and Michael was chosen because, first of all, he's a great attorney and second of all, he's very levelheaded," Cassin said. "I've always been



Michael Hurley

concerned with my legacy, and I feel that Michael is the person to do that."

Two days into his tenure in the new job, Hurley espoused a rosy outlook for the coming year, pointing to the plethora of alternative lenders on Cassin & Cassin's client roster.

"I think in the last three to four years, the nontraditional lenders have increased and made a push," Hurley said. "We're privileged to be a part of that."

A father of two teenage daughters and one younger son, Hurley lives with his wife and children in Westchester County, N.Y. – *M.G.*