

Press Release:

Couchmans Net Transfer Window Success

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Couchman Harrington Associates ("CHA"), the leading sports business law firm, enjoyed another highly successful summer in the football transfer market. CHA acted in a significant number of the major transfers during this summer's window, including moves for a number of leading agency Wasserman Media Group's clients, namely Michael Owen's transfer to Manchester United FC, Joleon Lescott's transfer to Manchester City FC, Darren Bent's transfer to Sunderland AFC, Fabien Delph's transfer to Aston Villa FC and Seyi Olofinjana's transfer to Hull City FC, as well as Lorik Cana's transfer to Sunderland AFC and Daniel Sturridge's transfer to Chelsea FC.

CHA also acted in a number of contract renegotiations for high-profile players, including Didier Drogba's and Florent Malouda's respective contract renegotiations with Chelsea FC and Scott Parker's renegotiation with West Ham United FC. In each case, the firm provided advice on the players' FA Premier League Contracts and/or image rights agreements. The firm also acted in numerous transactions in the Football League.

Fraser Reid, partner and head of CHA's Football Group, said: "*Building on the successes of recent years, we have once again been involved in a significant number of the high-profile deals that have taken place during the summer transfer window in England. We have also been involved in some of the summer's football club acquisitions including the recent takeover of Portsmouth in which we acted for the new owner, Sulaiman Al Fahim. Due to our focused and specialist nature we are increasingly regarded as the go-to firm in the sector; we know of no other law firm in the country currently conducting this level of business in football.*"

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Couchman Harrington Associates is a commercial law firm offering specialist legal advice to the sports industry. The leading independent legal directories say the following about the firm:

"They know football inside out" (Legal 500)

"If you want someone who knows the sports business inside out, these are the guys to call" (Chambers & Partners)

"A phenomenal sports practice ... there is clear, blue water between CHA and rival boutique sports firms ... the firm acts for some of the best known names in the sports industry" (Legal 500)

"The premier sporting boutique ... extremely commercial, increasing the value of every deal with the knowledge it brings" (Chambers & Partners)

"Remarkably successful at a time when other firms have been looking to exit the sports market ... winning business model" (Legal 500)

"The achievement of this firm is incredible ... the country's number one sports boutique" (Chambers & Partners)

"...a very substantial outfit. Such is the firm's strength across the board that every partner wins solid market approval" (Chambers & Partners)

www.couchmanharrington.com