

Anderson Kill Adds Policyholder Pro From Lowenstein

By **Megan Stride**

Law360, Chicago (September 04, 2012, 2:58 PM ET) -- Anderson Kill & Olick PC has snapped up for its Newark, N.J., office a former Lowenstein Sandler PC insurance coverage litigator for policyholders who has counted General Electric Co. and Unilever Plc among his clients, the firm said Tuesday.

Robert D. Chesler joined Anderson Kill as a shareholder, bringing a practice that focuses on representing policyholders in coverage claims against their insurers and advising companies on their insurance programs, his new firm said.

Chesler's policy expertise includes cyberinsurance, privacy, intellectual property, directors and officers, and green insurance, according to Anderson Kill, which also said its new shareholder was a leading player in the development of modern insurance law in the 1980s.

"Anderson Kill has been a leader on policyholders' rights for 30 years now, and I've always admired them," Chesler told Law360 on Tuesday, adding that going to a smaller firm known for insurance coverage work seemed like a "perfect fit."

Anderson Kill's managing shareholder, Robert M. Horkovich, said Chesler has been "in the vanguard establishing pro-policyholder law" and that the firm is thrilled to have him on board.

"The national recognition of his great success in obtaining insurance recoveries for policyholders in and outside of the courtroom and his great success in the boardroom helping policyholders assemble and understand insurance programs that meet their needs is well-deserved," Horkovich, who is also co-chairman of the firm's insurance recovery group, said in Tuesday's announcement.

Chesler has represented small businesses like dry cleaners and gas stations along with industry behemoths such as Chrysler Group, GE, Unilever and Ingersoll-Rand plc, among others.

His past work has included securing cyberinsurance coverage for a national retailer accused of violating a California law prohibiting requests for the personal information of customers paying by credit card, negotiating coverage for an electric company targeted in several class actions from customers, and pursuing coverage for companies facing thousands of asbestos and silica claims, according to Anderson Kill.

In other matters, Chesler pursued coverage tied to a case in which the president of a company allegedly stole more than \$50 million from the company, and obtained coverage for a client whose sandblasting on its property resulted in lead-based paint flecks that allegedly caused groundwater contamination, the firm said.

The new Anderson Kill shareholder has provided insurance coverage counseling to a hotel firm that suffered a major data breach, and his practice has extended to offering clients insurance advice regarding mergers and acquisitions as well, according to the firm.

Chesler is a graduate of Harvard Law School, and also holds a doctorate in history and a master's degree from Princeton University.

He currently teaches insurance law at Rutgers Law School, and on Tuesday told Law360 he tries to take an academic approach to the practice of law whenever he can.

Anderson Kill is based in New York and also has offices in Newark, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., Ventura, Calif., and Stamford, Conn.

The firm has made several other big hires this year.

In July, the firm added tax and estate shareholder Carole Sheffield from Reed Smith LLP to its Philadelphia office, and in March it added a four-lawyer international transaction team from Lacher & Lovell-Taylor PC — led by shareholders Michael Lacher and Adam J. Rader — in New York.

Those hires followed the January addition of former Michelman & Robinson LLP attorney Judith Joan Sullivan as chairwoman of its international business department.

--Additional reporting by Amanda Bransford, Gavin Broady and Dan Packel. Editing by Rebecca Flanagan.