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New Tyson & Mendes partner is former Erickson Arbuthnot leader

Joseph J. Minioza was attracted to Tyson & Mendes' growth mode when he joined as a partner in Northern California.

Tyson & Mendes LLP, a Los Angeles civil litigation defense firm having a growth spurt, has added Erickson Arbuthnot's former president, Joseph J. Minioza, as a partner in its Northern California office.

Growth played a large role in influencing his decision to move to Tyson & Mendes on Nov. 21, explained Minioza, known as J.J. "I think the firm is continually in a growth mode, which is attractive to me," he said in a phone interview Wednesday.

With 18 branches throughout the United States, five of which are in California, Minioza joins a firm that is expanding its cohort of 199 active attorneys.

"We are excited to have a litigator of J.J.'s caliber and expertise join our Northern California team," said Tyson & Mendes Strategic Managing Partner Robert Tyson in a news release. "His impressive resume and success rate are a testament to his passion for insurance defense and delivering results for clients and will further Tyson & Mendes' goal of achieving justice for all."

The firm, celebrating its 20th year, said in the news release it is one of the fastest growing civil defense firms in the country and offers "one of the fastest and clearest paths to partnership of any mid-sized law firm in the U.S."

Being able to work with a firm that has a larger platform was a high selling point during the recruiting process, Minioza said. "They have a reach, not only throughout California, but across multiple states nationwide. They have a lot of resources that have been quite impressive to me as far as support for my team and practice," Minioza said.

His practice includes defending clients that are in high-exposure civil suits brought by employees for alleged causes such as wrongful termination, malpractice, personal injury, products liability and discrimination. His history and interest in these high-exposure civil cases aligned well with Tyson & Mendes' practices, relations and defense techniques, he said.

"It's a great fit in that sense because we have the same common approach to handling these cases and client relations," Minioza closed.

Minioza defended 38 trials to verdict with a 98% success rate. His resume earned him numerous accolades throughout his career, including selection as one of America's Top 100 Civil Defense Litigators in 2020 — a group that includes only the top .5% of active attorneys in the United States.

Before becoming president of Erickson Arbuthnot, Minioza was a managing partner for the firm in Concord, California for 23 years. He graduated from UCLA School of Law and was admitted to practice in 1998.

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