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PEOPLE IN BUSINESS

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- Melvin Dow has moved his practice to Haynes and Boone. Dow had been a partner at Winstead since 2001 and has experience with business and commercial real estate transactions.

- Pannell Kerr Forster of Texas announced that Kenneth Guidry, CPA and president, has been appointed to the board of directors of PKF North America for 2010.

- Benchmark Hospitality International announced the following appointments: Alex Cabañas has been named chief development and strategy officer; Ellen Sinclair has been

named senior vice president and will oversee Benchmark's corporate and university conference centers; and Nikolaus Braun has been named director of information technology.

- Jones Day has named Joseph Beauchamp and James Vallee partners in the Houston office. Beauchamp, a member of the intellectual property practice, has litigated intellectual property disputes around the country. Vallee advises multinational companies and institutional investors on mergers and acquisitions, takeovers, joint ventures and corporate governance matters, primarily in the energy industry.

- In partnership with Santé Ventures, William "Billy" Cohn has formed TVA Medical, a medical device company developing minimally invasive therapies for end-stage renal disease. Cohn is a cardiovascular surgeon and the director of minimally invasive surgical technology at the Texas Heart Institute at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital in Houston. Cohn has also joined Austin-based Santé Ventures as a venture partner.

- Adams and Reese has elected David G. Clark and David Toney to partnership in the firm's Houston office: Clark represents clients in labor and employment matters. Toney practices primarily in the area of construction disputes, commercial litigation, products liability, personal injury defense and toxic tort. In addition, Adams and Reese partner F. Lee Butler has been named a practice group leader in the firm's litigation practice group, which consists of business litigation, tort litigation, energy and environmental litigation, and specialty litigation.

- Bracewell & Giuliani attorney Tracy Hester has been appointed visiting assistant professor at the University of Houston Law Center and will become the director of its Environment, Energy and Natural Resources Center. Hester will remain a member of Bracewell's environmental team as senior counsel.

- Jon Farris and Graham Horton have joined Stream Realty Partners as vice presidents to lead the industrial tenant representation business unit.

- Louise Duble was recently promoted to partner at the CPA firm of UHY in the assurance and business advisory services department.

- Jim Carroll has been named chief financial officer of Woodlands Oil and Gas, a private oil and gas exploration and production company licensed as an operator in Texas and in the Gulf of Mexico.


- MaloneBailey announced that David Forrest has been named audit partner and that Stan Raines has been named tax partner. Together, Forrest and Raines will lead the company's newly created private company practice team dedicated to developing the private company audit and tax practices.

- Keith Caver has joined Right Management, Houston as practice leader for talent management throughout the southern region.

- David Andrews and Randall Bayless were both promoted to managing director in the energy oil and gas group of Credit Suisse Securities.

- RigNet, a global provider of managed communications solutions for the oil and gas industry, announced the following appointments. Joe Conboy has been named vice president-global sales. Molly McGuirk has been named director-product management. Barise Hatfield has been named director-global human resources. Ken Bryson has been named manager of health, safety and environment.

- Richard Seale has been named president of Mustang's automation and control business unit.

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- Community Bank Partners announced the appointment of Tensie Homan as chief financial officer and founding partner.
- Houston Grocery Store Marketing, Southeast Media announced the appointment of Paul Hechler as supervisor of the large format department.

The Chronicle lists appointments to executive-level positions in Houston. Send announcements to katherine.feser@chron.com.

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