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## Shumaker Lobbying Arm Sets Up DC Shop

By **James Boyle**

Law360 (January 14, 2025, 4:21 PM EST) -- A team of public affairs specialists at Shumaker Loop & Kendrick LLP's lobbying unit in Washington can now communicate and collaborate in a shared space, following its recent launch of a new office just three blocks from Capitol Hill.

The three-person team operating Shumaker Advisors' Washington office moved into their new workspace at 104 North Carolina Ave. SE at the beginning of the new year, office partner-in-charge Ryan Walker told Law360 Pulse Tuesday. Before this move, the group worked remotely assisting clients with advancing their agendas at the federal level.

"It is nice to be in an office that will foster communication and collaboration and help us better serve our clients," Walker said in an interview. "We had to find the right spot, close to the Capitol."

Walker, a former chief of staff for Rep. Robert E. Latta, R-Ohio, joined Shumaker Advisors in June 2021, and serves as senior vice president of federal affairs at the lobbying firm. He said he was familiar with Shumaker before making the move from his own work on Capitol Hill.

"I really like their culture," Walker said. "Coming here provided me the opportunity to build something more permanent with Shumaker's presence in Washington. I am excited to begin that build and be part of something entrepreneurial."

Shumaker Advisors' roster also features Jason M. Ouimet, who previously served as executive director of the National Rifle Association's Institute for Legislative Action, and former Democratic strategist Chris Salemme. Formed in 2018, the lobbying firm assists clients in navigating federal policy and navigating the legislative and regulatory framework.

Mark Wagoner, chair of Shumaker Advisors, said in a statement Monday that the move into the new permanent office "is a natural evolution of the work we've been doing for years in Washington."

"Our team's intense understanding of the legislative process, coupled with strong bipartisan relationships, allows us to effectively advocate for our clients' goals," Wagoner said. "Being positioned near Capitol Hill enhances our ability to provide timely, direct advocacy and strategic counsel."

A wholly owned subsidiary of Shumaker, a national law firm, Shumaker Advisors launched in 2013 and has grown to four offices in Toledo, Ohio, Columbus, Ohio, Tampa, Florida, and Washington. The lobbying firm handles more state-related matters in its Ohio and Florida offices, Walker noted.

Shumaker Advisors is prepared for more activity as Donald Trump prepares for a second term as president, according to Walker. There is space for more talent in the Washington office, and the team has focused on setting itself apart from the numerous public affairs firms in the city, Walker added.

"There are a lot of bigger firms out there," he said. "We tell all of our prospective clients if they hire us and bring us their business, it will be us working on their behalf. We don't pass the work off to a junior associate."

--Editing by Covey Son.