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January 12, 2009

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Intellectual Property Expert Joins School of Law

FORT WORTH, Texas – Wade Savoy, former in-house counsel for Wal-Mart Stores, will join the Texas Wesleyan University School of Law faculty as practitioner-in-residence for the spring 2009 semester.

As the first in-house intellectual property attorney for Wal-Mart, Savoy oversaw the company's domestic and international trademark portfolio, including many brands grossing more than a billion dollars each. He also developed and conducted the first mandatory intellectual property training program for hundreds of Wal-Mart buyers and product development employees.

Savoy will teach a course in copyrights and new media, and a practicum in intellectual property licensing. He said he is looking forward to helping Dean Frederic White and current intellectual property law professor Megan Carpenter build the school's intellectual property program.

“As more and more of our lives are lived in the digital world, whether sharing YouTube videos with friends on our new iPhones or downloading the latest movies to our 52-inch flat-panel TVs, intellectual property law, as the law that underpins all this great new technology and content, is taking center stage and has to be addressed by everyone,” Savoy said. “Whether or not law students intend to focus their careers on this area, they and their future clients will increasingly face intellectual property issues. Dean White and Professor Carpenter show great foresight in trying to equip their students for a challenging and exciting future.”

Savoy previously worked at the intellectual property firm of Kirkpatrick & Lockhart (now K&L Gates) where he had a varied practice of intellectual property litigation, prosecution and corporate transactions. He has made presentations to the United States Patent Trademark Office and the International Trademark Association's annual meeting.

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