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MEDIA RELEASE

Mills Oakley appoints four new partners, expands national footprint

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National law firm Mills Oakley is delighted to announce the appointment of four new partners from around the country, bringing the total partnership to 161.

The lateral hires include:

- **Sophie Cleveland** joins from MinterEllison where she was a leading partner specialising in the areas of Government, Indigenous land disputes, ESG, Native Title and class actions. Sophie will launch a new Adelaide and Darwin Government and Commercial Disputes team.
- **Lachlan Drew** moves to Mills Oakley after 26 years also at MinterEllison, where he specialised in procurement, mergers and acquisitions, Aboriginal land law, company law, and infrastructure and major projects. Lachlan will join Partner Jeremy Rees in the Adelaide and Darwin Government and Commercial Law team and will help grow the firm's footprint on the ground in Darwin.
- **Steven Spyros** joined the Property group in Sydney in March after his time at Addisons as a Partner. Steven is highly regarded for his expertise in advising and executing complex transaction structures across a range of real estate, projects, finance, and private equity areas, spanning diverse real estate asset classes.
- **Clayton Taber** joins the Private Advisory team in Melbourne with more than a decade of experience in taxation law at Clayton Utz and Deloitte Legal. Clayton specialises in resolving complex tax disputes for large private businesses and high net wealth individuals. This includes acting for taxpayers at every stage of the tax dispute lifecycle, from pre-lodgement to formal proceedings challenging administrator action.

Mills Oakley Chief Executive Officer John Nerurker said the appointments reinforced the firm as an employer of choice attracting excellent people.

"The introduction of Sophie, Lachlan, Steven and Clayton to the partnership will further boost the firm's capabilities, and will continue our pursuit of becoming Australia's leading national law firm.

"The arrival of Sophie and Lachlan also marks the geographic expansion of our national footprint, with the pair launching our Government and Commercial Disputes, and our Government and Commercial Law teams in both Adelaide and Darwin. Both are exceptional practitioners who have deep connections within the South Australian and Northern Territory markets, and who will be able to deliver value to our clients."

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About Mills Oakley

Mills Oakley is a national law firm with offices in Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney and now Darwin. With a proud history of 160 years, we remain innovative and focused on our clients.

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