

## Press Release:

# Couchmans Acquire Leading Sports Lawyers

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Couchman Harrington Associates, the leading specialist sports business law practice, has fought off stiff competition from rival law firms to bring on board top sports lawyers Andrew Price and Steven Burton. The move not only boosts the firm's market leading position but underlines Couchmans' continued growth and expansion despite challenging market conditions.

Price, former Head of Sport at Addleshaw Goddard, and Burton, a Legal Director at the same firm, are two of the UK's leading sports practitioners. They have more than 20 years experience between them advising blue-chip clients including The Football League, Premier Rugby and Football Dataco (the joint venture between the FA Premier League and the Football League).

**Couchmans Managing Partner Mark Whitehead commented:** "We are delighted to welcome Andrew and Steven to our team. Both are leaders in their fields and highly respected within the industry and the fact that they chose Couchmans above other firms speaks volumes. They will be fantastic assets as we continue to drive our business forward. The sports fraternity has responded extremely positively to our unique offering over the past few years, and the migration from more traditional legal services providers towards specialist, sports dedicated practices like ours continues apace. Whilst current market conditions are undoubtedly tough, we are looking to expand even further from what is a very strong base."

**Andrew Price added:** "Couchmans stood out from other firms in many different ways. They are completely immersed in the sports industry and have a commitment to their clients and their business approach which is extremely impressive. Both Steven and I were looking to join a company where we could not only provide a seamless service for our existing clients, but where we could grow our own practices and seek out new opportunities. As well as being highly specialised, Couchmans has a supportive and entrepreneurial environment that is truly in tune with the needs of sport. We think this approach is the way forward for legal services in the sports sector and having joined the firm, we fully understand why they are so well regarded in the business".

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**Couchman Harrington Associates is a leading commercial law firm offering specialist legal advice to the sports industry. The leading independent legal directories say the following about the firm:-**

*"If you want someone who knows the sports business inside out, these are the guys to call"* (Chambers & Partners)

*"A phenomenal sports practice ... there is clear, blue water between CHA and rival boutique sports firms ... the firm acts for some of the best known names in the sports industry"* (Legal 500)

*"The premier sporting boutique ... extremely commercial, increasing the value of every deal with the knowledge it brings"* (Chambers & Partners)

*"Remarkably successful at a time when other firms have been looking to exit the sports market ... winning business model"* (Legal 500)

*"The achievement of this firm is incredible ... the country's number one sports boutique"* (Chambers & Partners)

*"...a very substantial outfit. Such is the firm's strength across the board that every partner wins solid market approval"* (Chambers & Partners)

**Further information at:** [www.couchmanharrington.com](http://www.couchmanharrington.com)