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**officesight****Julie Deignan Joins Gary Lee Partners**

6.5.09 | Chicago, IL | **Gary Lee Partners**, the internationally recognized interior and product design firm, announces that **Julie Deignan** has joined the organization as **Vice President of Business Development**. Gary L. Lee comments on Deignan's new position saying, "Julie has very strong ties in the business community and possesses a profound understanding of the needs and desires of the current marketplace."

Deignan is equally enthusiastic about her new role. "The firm has incredible brand recognition. The obvious passion, talent, and camaraderie of the staff make the firm a rarity in the industry," she says. "It is a very inspiring place to be and I look forward to working as a conduit that connects this exceptional firm with companies and individuals looking to make wise choices in how design can support their goals and maximize their short and long term real estate investments."

Deignan will work closely with Lee and the firm's leaders to strengthen the firm's presence and expand the reach of the practice beyond the corporate and residential markets where the firm has earned a reputation for its elegant, fine-tuned design solutions. "Julie has a tremendous capacity to connect with people and to understand the needs and wants of the market. She will be a tremendous asset to us," notes David Grout, the firm's Design Principal. Deignan adds, "I love networking and introducing people who can support each other in their processes."

Gary Lee Partners will benefit from the experience that Deignan brings from the contract furniture industry having spent four years as an Account Executive at Office Revolution, a commercial furniture dealership, and eight years at a Herman Miller dealership in Chicago. In her previous roles, she worked directly with end-users, real estate brokers, project managers, and design firms; experiences which afford her a unique and unbiased perspective that will better position Gary Lee Partners in the new economy.

Deignan is a graduate of the University of Michigan where she earned her Bachelor of General Studies in marketing and communications. Throughout her career, Julie also became a strong advocate for the promotion of social responsibility. While at Office Revolution, she helped establish the firm's Corporate Responsibility program, which promotes volunteerism within the organization. Most recently, this program helped to prompt awareness of homelessness among students in the Chicago Public Schools system and worked to raise enough money to purchase school supplies and uniforms for 850 homeless students. She also recently returned from Vietnam, where she taught English to children in remote farming communities.

**About Gary Lee Partners**

Gary Lee Partners is a Chicago-based design firm. Founded in 1993, the company consists of a multi-talented group of architects and interior designers specializing in commercial, residential, hospitality, and product design. Due to the firm's passion for design, concern for craft, and desire for perfection, its portfolio includes notable projects throughout North America, Asia, the Middle East, and Europe. Recent projects include The Austonian (Austin, TX), Sepia Restaurant (Chicago, IL), Armani Exchange (New York, NY), Winston & Strawn (Los Angeles), and the TG Couture furniture collection. More information on Gary Lee Partners can be found at [www.garyleepartners.com](http://www.garyleepartners.com)

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