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NEWS & ANALYSIS

Boutique Firm Looks to

FOUNDING: Spencer Kerr to focus on growing niche with L.A. New York offices

Risky Business

A legal feud is brewing in a federal court in Texas as the state leads a charge to strike down President **Barack Obama's** controversial executive order on immigration, announced late last year. But a small law firm in downtown Los Angeles now hopes it can entice the federal judge to uphold the action.

Andrade Gonzalez, a five-attorney boutique litigation firm, was selected last month to write a brief in support of the president's action on behalf of a coalition of 33 U.S. mayors, including Los Angeles Mayor **Eric Garcetti**.



Andrade

There was a catch though – the firm had only 24 hours to complete the brief.

“It was a really fast process for such a big project,” said **Sean Andrade**, a partner in the firm. “It was all hands on deck. Everyone in my firm really contributed.”

Andrade said he immediately agreed to work on the brief because immigration issues hit close to home. His firm is among the few Latino-owned law firms in Los Angeles.

Still, the lawyer said he also appreciates the risks that come with involvement in such high-profile and widely debated issues. Indeed, some potential clients could shy away from hiring the firm if they disagree with the president's executive order.

“It could actually hurt business,” he said. “I do know there is that risk, but that risk paled in comparison to the good we thought we could do by contributing to the brief.”

igation and even in transactional work, the lawyers involved in it are mostly generalists and don't have the focus on art that we have developed.”

But that could soon change.

Harry Kaye, a longtime art attorney and

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