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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Established Chicago Attorney David Wirt
Joins Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell As Partner;
Will Head Firm's National Bankruptcy Section**

(CHICAGO) May 1, 2008 – David Wirt, a prominent Chicago bankruptcy attorney, has joined Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell as a Partner and will be the national leader of Locke Lord's Bankruptcy Section. Wirt comes to Locke Lord from Winston & Strawn, where he was a Partner in the Corporate Department. Prior to that he was at Sidley & Austin in Chicago.

Wirt, a graduate of Northwestern University Law School, concentrates his practice in insolvency, bankruptcy and business reorganization matters. Over the last decade, he has represented numerous corporate debtors and official creditor committees, institutional lenders, trade creditors, and governmental agencies throughout the United States in all aspects of insolvency workouts and litigation.

"I am excited about being part of an entrepreneurial firm like Locke Lord and the opportunity to help expand the firm's bankruptcy practice across all its offices," Wirt said.

Larry Gray, Managing Partner of the Chicago Office, described Wirt as "a high energy, dynamic and well-established attorney who is known for his skills, honesty and enthusiasm."

Locke Lord Chair Jerry Clements said Wirt will add strength to the Firm's bankruptcy practice nationwide. "Adding a Section Leader with David's reputation and experience is in line with our goal of growth through the hiring of high-caliber attorneys in major practice areas," she said.

Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP is a full-service, national law firm of more than 700 attorneys with offices in Atlanta, Austin, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Houston, London, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Sacramento and Washington, D.C. With a vast geographic scope, and a national reputation in complex litigation, regulatory and transactional work, Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell is focused on achieving client success as a team. Among LLB&L's many strong practice areas are appellate, capital markets, corporate, class action litigation, employee benefits, energy, environmental, financial services, health care, insurance and reinsurance industries, intellectual property, labor and employment, public law, real estate, REIT, tax and technology.

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