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LOCKE LIDDELL & SAPP FORMS INTERNAL AND GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATIONS PRACTICE GROUP

May 2, 2005 – Because of a growing need from clients and in order to assist boards of directors, corporations and individuals with increased internal and government investigations, Locke Liddell & Sapp has officially formed an Internal and Government Investigations Practice Group. While attorneys at Locke Liddell have long done client work in these areas, the new practice group incorporates a more focused approach to better deal with clients' needs that have grown out of the current corporate environment.

“The Internal and Government Investigations Practice uses a multidisciplinary team of attorneys, with substantial experience in federal securities laws, corporate governance, antitrust, securities litigation, regulatory and criminal investigations and SEC enforcement actions,” said Charlie Parker, a partner at the Firm who is Co-Chair of the new group. “Our attorneys are working directly with corporate boards of directors, audit committees, special committees, senior management and corporate counsel to quickly and discreetly conduct these internal investigations. We also advise our clients on the development and implementation of corporate compliance programs and codes of conduct to help strengthen their internal controls and provide critical protection in the event of a regulatory and/or criminal investigation.”

Parker's practice has focused on securities litigation. He has vast experience in SEC enforcement actions and Foreign Corrupt Practice Act investigations. Assisting Parker as the leader of the Internal and Government Practice Group is Greg Hill, a partner at the Firm who has significant expertise in federal securities laws and corporate governance.

The practice area attorneys have extensive experience in internal investigations, SEC enforcement and DOJ investigations, including: compliance with Sarbanes-Oxley and related SEC rules and regulations; compliance, investigations and defense of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act; general disclosure matters; inquiries related to accounting irregularities, errors in financial reporting, internal financial controls and procedures, fraud, theft and conflicts of interest; investigations by state regulatory agencies and attorneys general; compliance audits and training, investigations and defense of anti-trust; investigations and enforcement actions by federal regulatory agencies; and whistleblower allegations.

Established in 1891, Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP is one of the leading law firms in Texas and throughout the nation. A full service law firm with offices in Austin, Dallas, Houston and New Orleans, Locke Liddell & Sapp has approximately 400 lawyers who represent a broad range of businesses and individual clients having extensive domestic and foreign business interests.