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LOCKE LIDDELL & SAPP APPELLATE CHAIR ELECTED TO AMERICAN ACADEMY OF APPELLATE LAWYERS

January 24, 2005 – Mike Hatchell, an attorney in the Austin office of Locke Liddell & Sapp who is head of the Firm's Appellate Section, has been elected as a member of the prestigious American Academy of Appellate Lawyers. Membership in the Academy is by invitation only and is limited to 500 members in the United States. To be eligible for membership, a nominee's practice must have focused substantially on appeals during at least the last 15 years.

Hatchell joined Locke Liddell & Sapp in 2004. He has been named one of the top five appellate lawyers in the state by Texas Lawyer and for the past two years has been named one of the 100 Texas Super Lawyers by Texas Monthly. He has been lead counsel in more than 125 appeals. He has argued 35 appeals in the Supreme Court of Texas, en banc to the federal Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals twice, and in all 14 courts of appeals in Texas. The Supreme Court of Texas has recognized Hatchell's expertise in appellate procedure by asking him to serve three terms on the Supreme Court Advisory Committee, a permanent committee that advises the Court on rules for trial and appellate practice. He has also been appointed by that Court to special task forces on the jury charge and judicial campaigning.

Hatchell received his undergraduate degree from the University of Texas and his law degree from the University of Texas School of Law, followed by a term as Clerk for the Senior Associate Justice, Meade F. Griffin, on the Supreme Court of Texas. A frequent lecturer, he has delivered over 100 papers, lectures and panel discussions on appellate procedure and appellate practice in Texas and federal courts. He is a regular panelist on the "Supreme Court Update" group which reviews via satellite seminar decisions of the Texas Supreme Court several times each term.

Established in 1891, Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP is recognized as 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 more than 400 lawyers who represent a broad range of businesses and individual clients having extensive domestic and foreign business interests.