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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOCKE LORD HOUSTON PARTNER GRAHAM HILL ELECTED PRESIDENT OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF BARRISTERS; ALSO INDUCTED INTO INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF TRIAL LAWYERS

(HOUSTON) April 4, 2011 – Locke Lord Partner Graham Hill was inducted Sunday into the well-respected International Academy of Trial Lawyers, an exclusive group limited to 500 U.S. attorneys. The honor follows his election last month as President of the esteemed International Society of Barristers, only the second Texan in history to lead the legal industry organization.

Hill's induction as a Fellow into the Academy of Trial Lawyers followed strict nomination and admissions standards that call for "outstanding skills and extensive experience as a trial lawyer" and demand thorough vetting and evaluation by colleagues and judges from throughout the legal industry. An accomplished litigator, Hill has worked with Locke Lord for nearly eight years and has established a reputation for excellence in personal injury, wrongful death, class action, mass tort and commercial litigation. Attorneys accepted into the Fellowship of the Academy – which includes international Fellows from 30 countries – remain members for the duration of their careers.

Hill's induction into the International Academy of Trial Lawyers closely follows another honor last month when he was elected President of the International Society of Barristers, an elite group of 650 trial lawyers found to be "outstanding in the field of advocacy." The group works to preserve trial by jury, the adversary system and independence of the judiciary. Hill has been a member of Barristers since 1989. Both organizations are "invitation only" and include trial lawyers who represent plaintiffs and defendants.

"We are thrilled and honored that Graham chooses to call Locke Lord home," said Chair Jerry Clements. "He is known for fair play and integrity throughout our profession, and his reputation for outstanding work in cases like the first "fen-phen" matter and the \$1 billion class action settlement involving defective hip implants are now part of legal legend. Graham will serve the International Academy of Trial Lawyers and the International Society of Barristers with commitment and dedication, which characterizes his entire legal career."

Hill earned his law degree from Southern Methodist University School of Law and his Master of Public Administration and Bachelor of Arts degrees from the University of Texas at Austin. He is a member of the American College of Trial Lawyers and the American Board of Trial Advocates.

Locke Lord Bissell & Liddell LLP consistently ranks among *American Lawyer's* top 100 U.S. law firms. Our 30-plus practice areas serve national and international clients from offices in Atlanta, Austin, Chicago, Dallas, Hong Kong, Houston, London, Los Angeles, New Orleans, New York, Sacramento, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. We have built a solid reputation in complex litigation, regulatory and transactional work, and our nearly 650 attorneys build collaborative relationships and craft creative solutions – all designed and executed to meet clients' long-term strategic goals. At the end of each year, we want our Firm to be better, stronger and more highly regarded than it was at the beginning.

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