



Attorneys & Counselors

Julie Gilbert
Chief Marketing Officer
T: 713-226-1140
jgilbert@lockelord.com
www.lockelord.com

For Immediate Release

Locke Lord Partner and Board Member Brent Benoit Named President of the Houston Bar Association

(HOUSTON) June 7, 2012 – Locke Lord Partner Brent Benoit, a longtime leader and pro bono volunteer with the Houston Bar Association, has been named president of the 11,200-member organization. Benoit has served on the group's board of directors for more than five years, filling the roles of president-elect, second vice president, treasurer and director, and he has also chaired its Houston Volunteer Lawyers Program and Dispute Resolution Center, dedicating hundreds of hours to pro bono causes around Houston.

Benoit practices securities and complex commercial litigation as well as internal and governmental investigations, including a wide range of matters involving allegations of securities fraud and antitrust violations, merger and acquisition disputes, broker/dealer litigation and energy law issues. His internal investigation and regulatory practice includes significant experience with the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act, the Office of Foreign Assets Control, the Securities and Exchange Commission and more.

He has served in leadership positions on numerous boards throughout Houston, including with M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, Cancer Counseling and Texas Lone Star Legal Aid. Benoit also is a member of the Houston and Texas Young Lawyers Associations. He began his law career in 1996 as an Associate with Locke Lord's predecessor firm Liddell, Sapp, Zivley, Hill & LaBoon, after graduating with high honors from The University of Texas School of Law. Benoit served two years as a Special Assistant Attorney General in Texas. He was named a Rising Star by *Texas Monthly* magazine last year. Benoit also serves leadership positions with Locke Lord, where he was named a Member of the Firm's Board of Directors in 2011.

"Locke Lord is extremely proud of Brent and his commitment to our community and to our Firm," said Houston office Managing Partner Ken Simon. "Brent has a very busy law practice, but he has always found time to give back, and that's a quality we all respect, admire and aim to duplicate. We know he'll continue to do a great job for the Houston Bar Association."

Locke Lord LLP consistently ranks among *American Lawyer's* top 100 U.S. law firms. The Firm's full range of practice and industry 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. It has an excellent reputation in complex litigation, regulatory and transactional work, with its 650-plus lawyers building collaborative relationships and crafting creative solutions – all designed and executed to meet clients' long-term strategic goals.

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