

# LOCKE LIDDELL & SAPP LLP

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **LOCKE LIDDELL & SAPP NAMED TOP LAW FIRM LOBBY PRACTICE IN TEXAS BY CAPITOL INSIDE**

January 27, 2004 – Locke Liddell & Sapp has the No. 1 Law Firm Lobby Practice in Texas, according to Capitol Inside's Second Annual Texas Lobby Power Rankings. This is the first time Capitol Inside has ranked law firms' public law practices.

"The firm is widely regarded for the innovative approach it uses to help clients confront complex public policy challenges at all levels of government," said Capitol Inside, an online site for politics and government affairs in Texas which Campaigns & Elections magazine recently said is "read widely by Texas capital power players."

Locke Liddell & Sapp's lawyers and non-lawyer professionals form a unique public law team recognized for its cutting-edge and direct approach, distinctive style, comprehensive tact, proactive bent, sharp skills and the ability to get things done. Before the 2003 Texas Legislative Session, one well-known political website referred to Locke Liddell & Sapp as "a very hot lobbying firm" and as a "well-connected law firm." In June 2003, immediately following the conclusion of the regular session, Locke Liddell & Sapp was ranked No. 1 of 12 law firm lobbying practices in Texas Lawyer's 2003 Lobbying Scorecard based on lobby billings reported to the Texas Ethics Commission. In November 2003, the Austin American-Statesman described Locke Liddell as "one of the state's political lobbying powerhouses."

In ranking Locke Liddell the Top Law Firm Lobby Practice in Texas, Capitol Inside said, "Locke Liddell already had the best connections and contacts in the business before winning the recruiting war for Bill Jones, who was the governor's general counsel before signing on last fall with the Houston-based firm. Texas Lawyer magazine says the firm billed clients more for lobbying last year than its top competitors -- and it gives plenty of money to political candidates as well. The lobbying team is led by Robert Miller, the immediate past chairman of Houston METRO, along with former Greater Houston Partnership chairman Bruce LaBoon. State Senator John Whitmire, who holds the prestigious 'of counsel' position, lobbies at the local and federal levels."

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 about 400 lawyers who represent a broad range of businesses and individual clients having extensive domestic and foreign business interests.