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LOCKE LIDDELL & SAPP IS MOST DIVERSE LAW FIRM IN AUSTIN BY ANNUAL MINORITY REPORT

August 9, 2004 – Locke Liddell & Sapp is the most diverse law firm in Austin, according to an annual report card prepared by the Hispanic Bar Association of Austin and the Austin Black Lawyers Association. The “2004 Report Card” gives Locke Liddell’s Austin office an A for recruiting and hiring minorities, and describes the Firm’s efforts as “Outstanding; should be emulated.” The survey was conducted among Austin’s largest law firms.

With 21 percent of attorneys in its Austin office being composed of minorities, Locke Liddell was the most diverse Austin law firm on the list. According to the State Bar of Texas, 14 percent of Texas attorneys and 12 percent of Travis County attorneys are Hispanic, African-American, Asian or Native American.

“Locke Liddell has been committed to diversity in hiring for years, so naturally we’re proud of this recognition and of the fact we are far above the state and local averages,” said Brad Hawley, Managing Partner of the Firm’s Austin office. “We believe firms must diversify to reflect their client population and the population in general, and we will continue to focus on recruiting and hiring minority lawyers.”

This is the fifth year Austin’s Hispanic Bar and Black Lawyers Associations have conducted the diversity survey. Only four of the 25 firms surveyed earned A’s.

According to the December 2003 Texas Lawyer Legal Almanac, Locke Liddell & Sapp firmwide had the second highest percentage of minority associates of any firm in Texas.

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.