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**For Immediate Release**

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## Locke Lord Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer Paulette Brown 1 of 50 to Receive National Award for Diversity Contributions

**(PRINCETON) September 21, 2018** – **Paulette Brown**, Locke Lord’s Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer and Past President of the American Bar Association (ABA), has been selected to join the inaugural class of the Council on Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO) EDGE honorees for her outstanding contributions in the field of diversity. Brown was selected from more than 200 nominees to receive one of only 50 awards in the diversity category and will accept the award during the organization’s 50th Anniversary Gala on Nov. 15.

Brown, who is the first woman of color to lead the ABA, is a Senior Partner at Locke Lord based in the Firm’s **Princeton** office. Throughout her career, she has held a number of positions, including in-house counsel to a number of Fortune 500 companies and as a Municipal Court Judge. For nearly 40 years, Brown has engaged in the private practice of law, focusing on all facets of labor and employment and commercial litigation.

She is nationally known for speaking out to eliminate bias in the U.S. legal system and advocating for the advancement of diverse lawyers, including women. At the start of her term as ABA President, Brown formed the ABA’s Diversity and Inclusion 360 Commission that examined the state of diversity and inclusion in the legal profession, the judicial system and the ABA with the aim of formulating methods, policies, standards and practices to best advance diversity and inclusion. She was influential in the creation, passage and implementation of ABA Resolution 113, which aims to promote diversity within law firms and urges clients to expand opportunities for diverse lawyers.

Brown has been recognized by the New Jersey Law Journal as one of the prominent women and minority attorneys in the state of New Jersey and by the National Law Journal as one of “The 50 Most Influential Minority Lawyers in America.” Earlier this year, she was selected by the Executive Women of New Jersey as a Salute Honoree for her exceptional professional accomplishments and advancing the cause of women’s leadership. Last year, Brown received the Boston Bar Association’s Beacon Award for Diversity and Inclusion for her efforts to increase diversity in the legal profession as well as the Good Scout Award on behalf of the Northern New Jersey Council for her accomplishments and community service. In addition, she has been named by U.S. News as one of the Best Lawyers in America in the area of Commercial Litigation, included on the EBONY Power 100 List, and named one of the country’s “Most Influential Black Lawyers” by Savoy Magazine. She has also been previously selected by the New Jersey Commission on Professionalism in the Law to receive the Daniel J. O’Hearn Award for Professionalism and named a New Jersey Law Journal Top Women in Law honoree.



CLEO, founded in 1968 when the number of lawyers of color was less than one percent, is the longest-serving national organization committed to increasing diversity in the legal profession via legal education. For the full list of CLEO EDGE honorees, click [here](#).

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### **About Locke Lord LLP**

Locke Lord is a full-service law firm with global reach and 20 offices designed to meet clients' needs around the world. The Firm has a history that spans more than 130 years and is a worldwide leader in the middle market sector. Locke Lord advises clients across a broad spectrum of industries including energy, financial services, fund formation, health care, insurance and reinsurance, private equity and venture capital, public finance, real estate, and technology, media and telecommunications, while providing a wealth of experience through its complex litigation, intellectual property, tax, regulatory and transactional teams.