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For Immediate Release

Locke Lord Joins Accord Project, Focused on Smart Legal Contracts and Blockchain

October 2, 2018 – Locke Lord is pleased to announce that it has joined the [Accord Project](#), the leading open-source global initiative for smart legal contracts. [Brian Casey](#), Co-Chair of the [Regulatory and Transactional Insurance](#) Practice Group based in [Atlanta](#), and [Thomas Smedinghoff](#), a member of the Firm’s [Privacy & Cybersecurity](#) Practice Group based in the [Chicago](#) office, will represent Locke Lord in the organization.

Locke Lord is among notable organizations and law firms around the globe that are partnering with the Accord Project to assist in the development of industry-wide standards for smart legal contracts. The purpose of the Project is to enable lawyers, law firms, trade associations and corporations to help establish open standards for the future of contracting and to produce open-source code for smart legal contracts and distributed ledger usage by legal and business users.

“Distributed ledger technology and blockchain are rapidly becoming important issues for our clients in just about every business sector and play fundamental roles in security and privacy. Partnering with the Accord Project will allow Locke Lord and its lawyers to make an impact in developing the best standards for smart legal contracts,” said Casey.

Casey advises insurance and reinsurance industry clients and is a frequent speaker on many insurtech initiatives, including electronic signatures, blockchain, digital insurance, electronic payments, analytics, big data and artificial intelligence. Smedinghoff has been on the forefront of emerging legal issues regarding electronic transactions, identity management, privacy, information security and online authentication issues from both a transactional and public policy perspective.

Further showcasing Locke Lord’s commitment to these emerging technologies, the Firm is also a member of the [Chamber of Digital Commerce \(CDC\)](#), the world’s leading trade association representing the digital asset and blockchain industry. Locke Lord will be an active participant in the CDC’s new insurance industry working group.

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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.