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Former Chair of Thelen's Employee Benefits Practice Joins Morgan Lewis in Washington, D.C.

WASHINGTON, D.C., December 10, 2008: Morgan Lewis today announced the addition of two attorneys to its Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Practice. Benjamin I. Delancy, who was most recently a partner at Thelen and chair of its Employee Benefits Practice, has joined the group as partner in the firm's Washington, D.C. office. He is accompanied by Vicki Nielsen, who joined Morgan Lewis as an associate.

"Ben's well-established, stellar reputation in the employee benefits area, especially as it relates to the energy industry, is a welcome addition to our team," said Bob Lichtenstein, leader of Morgan Lewis's Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Practice.

"His close working relationship with the group of Thelen energy attorneys who recently joined the firm's transactional practice in New York, along with the recent growth of our Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Group here in Washington, D.C. makes Ben a perfect fit for Morgan Lewis at this time," added Grace Speights, Managing Partner of the Washington, D.C. Office.

Morgan Lewis's Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Practice consists of more than 80 professionals based in 10 offices. It is one of the largest in the country and offers a level of substantive knowledge, industry experience, and technical skill that makes the firm a nationwide leader in finding creative solutions to companies' benefits and compensation problems.

Mr. Delancy's practice focuses on executive compensation, including equity compensation, nonqualified deferred compensation, and change-of-control agreements; qualified retirement plans; and health and welfare programs. He and Ms. Nielsen join an impressive team that includes a number of former Treasury officials, such as Dan Hogans—who was the agency's lead on Section 409A. In addition to working with colleagues in the Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation Practice, they will work closely with other notable former government officials like former Deputy IRS Commissioner Mark Matthews, former IRS Deputy Chief Counsel Gary Wilcox, and Treasury's Former Deputy Tax Legislative Counsel Susan Brown, each of whom has brought considerable tax policy and planning experience to the firm.

About Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Morgan Lewis is an international law firm with more than 1,500 lawyers in 22 offices located in Beijing, Boston, Brussels, Chicago, Dallas, Frankfurt, Harrisburg, Houston, Irvine, London, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Palo Alto, Paris, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Princeton, San Francisco, Tokyo, and Washington, D.C. For more information about Morgan Lewis, please visit www.morganlewis.com.