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Morgan Lewis Adds Corporate Partner with Background in Energy, Continues Growth in Houston

HOUSTON, February 4, 2008: Morgan Lewis today announced the addition of Bill Parish—a corporate lawyer known for his success in energy transactions—to its Houston office. His arrival broadens the firm's corporate capabilities in the energy industry and continues the firm's recent trend of rapid expansion into Texas, where Morgan Lewis now has more than 50 attorneys.

Bill joins a Business and Finance Practice that already spans the United States, Europe, and Asia, with more than 300 lawyers who focus on a wide variety of areas, including mergers and acquisitions, private equity, finance, and capital markets. Bill's 12 years of experience in energy transactions complement the firm's robust Energy Practice, which represents clients in every major segment of the industry. His arrival reflects the firm's commitment to growth in Houston, a market seen as key to the growing global energy industry.

Bill's practice focuses on mergers and acquisitions and private equity investments, particularly in the electric power generation and oil and gas industries. He routinely advises clients regarding partnerships and joint ventures, venture capital, strategic alliances, and general corporate and contract matters. Regularly cited as a "Rising Star" in the Texas legal profession and a top mergers and acquisitions lawyer in Houston, Bill is a fellow of the Texas Bar Foundation—a group to which fewer than 1/3 of 1% of the members of the Texas Bar are granted admission.

Bill represents clients in cross-border transactions, particularly those involving Latin America. Fluent in Spanish, he has worked on cross-border acquisitions and divestitures for a wide variety of clients in virtually every Latin American country across several different industries. Additionally, Bill regularly represents Middle Eastern and other non-U.S. clients in their investments in the United States, including Shariah-compliant investment transactions.

Bill joins Morgan Lewis from the Houston office of King & Spalding, where he previously worked with fellow partner Carlos Treistman. Other recent additions to the Houston transactional practice include international consultant Rodrigo Dominguez Sotomayor, who is licensed in Mexico, fluent in Spanish, and has nearly seven years of experience in cross-border mergers and acquisitions, private equity, and real estate transactions in Latin America. Energy transactional associate Jonathan Ayre also joined Morgan Lewis this week, along with paralegal Alexandra Blanton—who is fluent in both Spanish and Portuguese.

Also joining the Houston office this week are two litigation associates. James Beebe, who previously worked at Fulbright & Jaworski with seven of the newest Morgan Lewis partners in Houston, joins the Intellectual Property Litigation practice. Mo Taherzadeh, formerly with Mayer Brown, joins the Commercial Litigation practice. Their arrival brings the total attorney headcount in Morgan Lewis's Houston office to 25.

About Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP

Morgan Lewis is a global law firm with more than 1,400 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.

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