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Bradley Arant Boult Cummings Top Law Firm in Alabama for Public Finance

Ranked First in the State in Annual Rankings from Thomson Reuters and the Bond Buyer

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (February 24, 2011) – Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP has been named the top firm in Alabama for public finance by Thomson Reuters.

In the Municipal Market Analysis, published annually by Thomson Reuters, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings was ranked number one among bond counsel firms in Alabama for 2010. The firm had the highest deal volume in terms of par amounts of bonds issued (\$844.9 million), the highest market share, and the second highest number of transactions. *The Bond Buyer* also reported Bradley Arant Boult Cummings in its annual ranking as the top firm for public finance in Alabama based on data from the Thomson Reuters analysis.

"This is a very significant achievement for our Public Finance Group, and we are pleased to secure a number one placement by the most prominent rankings of public finance firms," said Beau Grenier, Firm Chairman. "It speaks to the quality of work our team is doing in Alabama, and the reputation we have with clients."

About the Public Finance Group

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings has extensive experience as bond counsel for the State of Alabama and numerous municipalities, counties, public corporations and other issuers of taxable and tax-exempt securities. Our firm was the first law firm in Alabama, and one of the first in the Southeast, to render sole legal opinions in the field of public securities and to become nationally recognized bond counsel. The firm's municipal finance practice includes serving as bond counsel with respect to the issuance of general obligation securities, hospital revenue bonds, airport revenue bonds, special tax obligations, utility revenue obligations, industrial development bonds and other public securities. We have extensive experience in the areas of municipal law, public schools, colleges and universities, public health, public

utilities, solid waste disposal facilities and other public and private activities that may be financed through the issuance of taxable and tax-exempt securities. We also serve as underwriter's counsel, issuer's counsel, counsel to banks issuing letters of credit as support for municipal securities, bond purchaser's counsel and special tax counsel in connection with the issuance of municipal securities.

About Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

Tracing its roots to 1871, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP has more than 380 attorneys in seven offices, and is one of the largest law firms in the Southeast. The firm maintains offices in Birmingham, Huntsville, and Montgomery, Alabama; Jackson, Mississippi; Charlotte, North Carolina; Nashville, Tennessee; and Washington, D.C.

The firm's lawyers serve clients locally, regionally, nationally and internationally, and provide services across a wide range of industries, including accounting, automotive, banking and finance, biotechnology, life sciences, construction, education, emerging business, energy, entertainment, equipment leasing, forest products, government contracts, health care, life sciences, hospitality, insurance, manufacturing, materials and aggregate production, media and communications, mining, municipal and public finance, oil and gas, pharmaceuticals and medical devices, public utilities, real estate, retail, steel, technology, telecommunications, textiles, transportation, and venture capital.