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Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings and Attorneys Kevin Newsom and Matthew Lembke Recognized by Benchmark Appellate as Appeals Litigation Leaders

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (Dec. 28, 2011) – Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP and two of the firm’s appellate attorneys received top rankings in the debut edition of *Benchmark Appellate*, which evaluates leading U.S. appeals litigation firms and attorneys.

The firm was ranked one of the top circuit litigation firms in the Eleventh Federal Circuit Court of Appeals. In addition, Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings partners Kevin C. Newsom, chair of the firm’s Appellate Litigation Group, and Matthew H. Lembke were listed by *Benchmark Appellate* as top circuit litigation attorneys.

Published by Euromoney’s Legal Media Group, *Benchmark Appellate* was spawned by the 5-year-old *Benchmark Litigation*, the publisher’s hallmark publication that focuses on trial-level litigators and law firms. *Benchmark Appellate*’s rankings are subcategorized according to law firms’ and their attorneys’ respective federal circuits. According to *Benchmark Appellate*, Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings, which maintains offices in several federal circuits, also is highly recommended in the Fifth and Sixth Circuits. Rankings were determined through research interviews with litigators and their clients.

“The firm’s appellate team offers exceptional writing and advocacy experience, and they get results,” a Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings client of two years was quoted in *Benchmark Appellate*’s analysis of the firm. “Other firms don’t compare.”

Firm Chairman Beau Grenier said, “It is a tremendous honor for the firm, along with Kevin and Matthew, to be recognized by *Benchmark Appellate* as leaders in appellate law. About half of our lawyers in our appellate group spend the majority of their time on appellate matters, so clearly our record stands out for our clients who rely on us to handle their high-stakes appeals.”

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings' appellate lawyers handle all practice areas, including general commercial, class action, products liability, labor and employment, intellectual property, environmental, banking and finance, health care, media, tax and civil rights. The firm often is retained by the state of Alabama, including a 2010 environmental appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

Benchmark Appellate pointed out that Newsom and Lembke “regularly spearhead the firm’s largest and most high-profile federal appeals inside and outside the Eleventh Circuit.” Both have handled appeals pending in state and federal courts, including the Alabama Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals and the Alabama appellate courts. Newsom and Lembke both previously clerked at the U.S. Supreme Court.

About Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

Tracing its roots to 1871, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP has approximately 400 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, economic development, 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.