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Bradley Arant Boult Cummings Continues Strategic Growth of Health Care Practice with Addition of Partner Leigh Anne Hodge in Birmingham

Hodge is the 15th Health Care Attorney to Join Firm in Nine Months

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (**August 23, 2012**) – Continuing the strategic growth of its nationally recognized Health Care practice, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP has added partner Leigh Anne Hodge in its Birmingham office. Previously a partner with Balch & Bingham, Ms. Hodge focuses her practice on health care litigation.

Ms. Hodge is the 15th attorney to join the Health Care practice at Bradley Arant Boult Cummings in the past nine months. In January, the firm <u>added nine members to the group in Birmingham</u>. Others joining in the past nine months include <u>Jay Levine</u> in Washington, <u>Amy Leopard</u> in Nashville, and <u>Dinetia</u> Newman in Jackson.

"We are happy to welcome Leigh Anne to the firm and look forward to what she brings to our team," said Firm Chairman Beau Grenier. "She has excellent skills, experience, and industry knowledge, and we look forward to having her with us."

Ms. Hodge counsels health care clients on a range of matters, including medical malpractice, ERISA litigation, class actions, disputes between physicians and health care providers regarding reimbursement and quality of care issues, insurance disputes, arbitration, insurance fraud, any willing provider laws, and constitutional and statutory challenges to legislation and regulation. She has considerable experience defending Medicare Advantage Plans in actions filed by beneficiaries alleging fraud by agents during the enrollment process.

"I have always been impressed by the reputation of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, both as a firm and specifically its health care practice," said Hodge. "The firm provides the right platform for the next stage of my career, and I look forward to working as part of this new team."

A practicing nurse before she went to law school, Ms. Hodge holds a J.D. (*summa cum laude*) from Cumberland School of Law and a B.S.N. (with honors) from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is the Treasurer of the American Inns of Court in Birmingham; a member of the Health Law Section of the Alabama Bar; and a member of the Executive Committee of the Autism and Behavioral Health Center in Birmingham. She previously served as an adjunct professor of health law transactions at Cumberland School of Law.

About Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

Tracing its roots to 1871, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP has more than 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, economic development, education, emerging business, energy, entertainment, equipment leasing, forest products, government contracts, health care, hospitality, insurance, life sciences, 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.