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Three Litigators Join Bradley Arant Boult Cummings in Washington, DC

WASHINGTON (Jan. 11, 2013) – Continuing the firm's ongoing strategic growth efforts, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP has added a team of three litigators to its Washington, DC office. Joining are partners John Parker Sweeney and T. Sky Woodward, along with associate Kevin B. Mattingly. All three come to the firm from Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, LLP.

"John, Sky and Kevin are all talented litigators with stellar reputations, both in Washington and nationally," said Firm Chairman Beau Grenier. "They are known for their unique team approach to working with clients. We are pleased to welcome them to the firm, and our nationally recognized Litigation group."

"Our new colleagues are known for their strong leadership in both the defense bar community and the industries they serve," said Washington office Managing Partner Doug Patin. "They bring with them a wealth of defense litigation experience, particularly in the areas of mass tort, toxic torts, and class actions."

"Bradley Arant Boult Cummings has such a strong footprint in the Southeast, and a reputation for litigation work that few can match," said Mr. Sweeney. "The firm is a solid fit for where we, as a team, want to take our practice and client work."

Mr. Sweeney has more than 30 years of experience defending major class action and mass tort litigation involving product liability, consumer protection, environmental and toxic tort claims. He regularly serves as national counsel in class action and mass tort cases across the country. Mr. Sweeney has significant experience in government investigation work, having worked for six years at the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Since then, he has served as trusted counsel to clients involved in

federal and state investigations and compliance actions. Mr. Sweeney currently serves as First Vice President of the Defense Research Institute (DRI), and will serve as President in 2014. He holds a J.D. (*summa cum laude*) from The American University, Western College of Law and a B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan University.

Ms. Woodward has a diverse client base and litigation practice. She represents real estate and financial services companies in environmental, consumer finance and commercial litigation. Ms. Woodward also serves as counsel to manufacturing industry clients in mass tort and class action product liability and toxic tort cases, as well as environmental matters. She is a past-president of Maryland Defense Counsel, Inc., the winner of a "Leadership in the Law" award from the *Daily Record*, and has held several positions with the DRI. Ms. Woodward holds a J.D. from George Washington University School of Law and a B.A. from the University of Oklahoma.

Mr. Mattingly focuses his practice on the defense of manufacturers, distributors and retailers involved in complex product liability and mass tort litigation. He also advises his manufacturing clients on issues related to regulatory compliance, including the Consumer Product Safety Commissioner Consumer Complaint Database. Mr. Mattingly holds a J.D. (*cum laude*) from the University of Maryland School of Law and a B.A. (with distinction) from the University of North Carolina. He is a former law clerk to Judge Glenn Harrell of the Maryland Court of Appeals.

About Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP

Tracing its roots to 1871, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP has more than 440 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, 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.