



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN LAWYERS TO HOST
WEST COAST CONFERENCE ON BEST PRACTICES FOR WOMEN ATTORNEYS**

Speakers for the April 19th Conference in Los Angeles Will Include Leading Attorneys From Major Law Firms, Corporate Law Departments, Non-Profits and the Public Sector

The National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL) has announced its program for a spring conference on career development and best practices for women attorneys. The program will take place on Wednesday, April 19, 2006, from 7:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles.

The conference, entitled "Taking Charge of Your Career: Best Practices for Women Lawyers," is the sixth program in a nationwide series presented by NAWL designed to jump start the process of learning the skills and information needed for career success, leadership roles and a sense of personal achievement.

Addressing the conference as keynote speaker will be **The Honorable Judith Chirlin** of the Los Angeles Superior Court, who has been recognized for her outstanding work as a trial jurist and for her tireless efforts to improve the judicial system and to diversify the bench. Judge Chirlin has served on the Board of Governors of the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, the International Association of Women Judges, and the National Association of Women Judges, whose Committee on Judicial Appointments she chaired for five years. In August 2003, she was a member of a delegation sent by the International Legal Assistance Consortium (ILAC), to study and assist the rebuilding and strengthening of Iraq's justice system and legal profession. She is a member of the faculty of the Central European and Eurasian Law Initiative (CEELI) in Prague, which teaches training seminars for Iraqi judges, a result of one of the recommendations following the ILAC delegation's investigation in Baghdad.

Panel presentations at the conference will include discussions on a variety of topics, including “Client Relationships: How In-House Counsel Select Counsel”; “Becoming a Leader in Your Organization and Community”; and “Not What You Learned in Law School – The Skills and Information You Need to Progress.” Speakers will include leading attorneys and professionals from law firms, corporate legal departments, not-for-profit organizations, legal consulting firms, business associations and the public sector.

Confirmed panel speakers to date include the following attorneys:

Elizabeth Atlee	BP America Inc.
Catherine Valerio Barrad	Sidley Austin LLP
Ellen Berkowitz	Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP
Ann Calfas	Fox Entertainment Group
Michelle Williams Court	Bet Tzedek – The House of Justice
Susan Fillichio	DecisionQuest
Cathy Fleming	Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP
Lisa Gilford	Weston Benshoof Rochefort Rubalcava & MacCuish LLP
Georgann Grunebach	DIRECTV
Kathleen Kenealy	California Attorney General’s Office
Maya Lee	Los Angeles County Counsel’s Office
Linda Louie	National Hot Rod Association
Kelly Manderino	Los Angeles City Attorney’s Office
Elizabeth Mann	McDermott Will & Emery
Deanne Miller	Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP
Polly Towill	Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP
Kathleen Waters	Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP
Karen Kahn Wilson	WomenCentric Enterprises
Jamie Wine	Latham & Watkins LLP

The NAWL conference is being co-sponsored by a range of legal and professional associations, including the American Bar Association Women Advocates Committee; the Association of Corporate Counsel; California Women Lawyers; the Los Angeles County Bar Association Barristers; Santa Barbara Women Lawyers; and the Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles. Weston, Benshoof, Rochefort, Rubalcava & MacCuish LLP is the program’s Host Sponsor, and NAWL has received generous

support for its programming from 2006 Premier Law Firm Sponsors Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP, Jenner & Block LLP, and Kirkland & Ellis LLP. Other law firm supporters include Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP; Latham & Watkins LLP; McDermott Will & Emery; and Sidley Austin LLP.

Additional information and registration materials for the conference can be found on-line at www.nawl.org or by contacting Lisa Gilford at (213) 576-1114.

The National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL) is a national voluntary legal professional organization devoted to the interests of women lawyers and women's rights. Founded in 1899, NAWL has historically served as an educational forum and an active voice for the concerns of women in the legal profession. Among its activities are innovative conferences and seminars, publications, networking and leadership opportunities, and amicus support in the courts on issues of women's rights. NAWL welcomes men and women lawyers as members, and additional information can be found on the organization's website at www.nawl.org.

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