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Contact: Anne Nicholas
Phone: 202/662-8648
E-mail: nicholaa@staff.abanet.org

**ABA TAX SECTION ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF EIGHTH ANNUAL LAW
STUDENT TAX CHALLENGE**

Winners in J.D., LL.M. Competitions, and Best Written Submissions Chosen

WASHINGTON, D.C., Jan. 23, 2009 -- The American Bar Association Section of Taxation has announced the winners of its 2008 Law Student Tax Challenge, a contest designed to give students an opportunity to research, write about and present their analyses of a “real life” tax planning problem. The competition is open to both J.D. and LL.M. students.

Lisa Kothari and Jeanmarie Dunn-Kane of Temple University Beasley School of Law were awarded first place in the J.D. Division, and Brett Saltzman and Daniel Bergrin of Northwestern University School of Law won in the LL.M. Division. The teams presented both oral and written arguments before a panel of distinguished tax lawyers attending the section’s Midyear Meeting in New Orleans. The winners and their coaches, Andrea Monroe of Temple University Beasley School of Law and Charlotte Crane of Northwestern University School of Law, were honored at a reception during the meeting.

“The competition was tough this year, with 34 J.D. and 31 LL.M. teams competing,” said William J. Wilkins, chair of the ABA Tax Section. “The challenge was

a very creative tax planning problem that took into account that our Midyear Meeting was in New Orleans, and asked students to advise a fictional client on how to secure tax credits for economic development projects in the area,” he said. “One of the greatest benefits to the students is the feedback they receive from some of the best tax lawyers in the country,” he said, adding, “We hope their experience in the tax challenge will help prepare them for their careers as tax lawyers.”

The Law Student Tax Challenge was developed and is administered by the section’s Young Lawyers Forum, and is designed to reflect everyday tax issues that might arise for practitioners. The contest features J.D. and LL.M. divisions, both of which compete in two-person teams that research the tax issues involved, and then submit technical memoranda and client letters with their solutions. Other awardees include:

J.D. Division:

2nd Place: Alicia Buckingham and Christopher Massey, University of Denver Sturm School of Law. Cynthia Schlegel, coach.

Best Written Submission: Lisa Kothari and Jeanmarie Dunn-Kane, Temple University Beasley School of Law. Andrea Monroe, coach.

Semi-finalists: Eloise Pinto and Kristi Braind, Michigan State University College of Law. Michele Halloran, coach.

Ashley Dorn and Megan Oroszlan, Temple University Beasley School of Law. Andrea Monroe, coach.

Jessica Kuester and Jillian Farrar, Syracuse University College of Law. Robert Nassau, coach.

LL.M. Division:

2nd Place: Lydia York and David Annecharico, Temple University Beasley School of Law. Andrea Monroe, coach.

Best Written Submission: Brett Saltzman and Daniel Bergin, Northwestern University School of Law. Charlotte Crane, coach.

Finalists: Jenna Shih and Damon Paxton, University of San Diego School of Law. Richard Shaw, coach.

G. Martin Bingisser and Ted Shultz, University of Washington School of Law. Sam Donaldson, coach.

A complete listing of the teams entered in the 2008 competition, along with samples of entries, is available on the section's Web site at:

<http://www.abanet.org/tax/lstc>.

The American Bar Association Section of Taxation is the largest professional association of tax lawyers, with approximately 21,000 members nationwide. Its goals include helping taxpayers better understand their rights and obligations under the tax laws and working to achieve a simplified tax system that is equitable and efficient.

With more than 400,000 members, the American Bar Association is the largest voluntary professional membership organization in the world. As the national voice of the legal profession, the ABA works to improve the administration of justice, promotes programs that assist lawyers and judges in their work, accredits law schools, provides continuing legal education, and works to build public understanding around the world of the importance of the rule of law.