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NASHVILLE LAWYER JOHN R. TARPLEY NAMED VICE-CHAIR OF THE AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION TORT TRIAL & INSURANCE PRACTICE SECTION

CHICAGO, Aug. 14, 2008 — John R. Tarpley of Lewis, King, Kreig & Waldrop PC, Nashville, Tenn., has been appointed vice-chair of the American Bar Association Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section. Tarpley will serve a one year term as vice-chair that began at the close of the ABA Annual Meeting on August 12. He will assume the position of section chair at the close of the 2009 Annual Meeting.

Tarpley has been involved in complex litigation in the areas of tort, transportation, product liability, professional liability, commercial law, construction defect and casualty defense, and a wide range of insurance related matters, in both state and federal courts. His product liability work includes the representation of manufacturers of automobiles, heavy equipment, appliances and power tools, as well as significant experience in asbestos defense.

He has successfully defended a number of trucking companies and their employees both at trial and in the mediation of claims. Additionally, he has represented employers, managing underwriters, third party administrators and insurance companies in litigation concerning a wide variety of ERISA issues. Tarpley has also been certified as a general civil mediator by the Alternative Dispute Resolution Commission of the Tennessee Supreme Court.

Tarpley received his Juris Doctor in 1980 and his bachelor's degree in 1976, both from the University of Tennessee. Prior to joining Lewis, King, Kreig & Waldrop, P.C. in 1989, Tarpley was a judicial clerk for the Tennessee Court of Appeals, Middle Division from 1981 to 1982 and served as an assistant attorney general for the state of Tennessee from 1982 to 1989. During that time, he was responsible for statewide enforcement of consumer protection and antitrust laws, and recovered restitution for thousands of consumers.

Tarpley is a former president of the Tennessee Bar Association and has served on the TBA's executive committee for a number of years. As president of the TBA, he implemented the successful "Leadership Law" program and continues to be involved in its programming. He also established "Lawyers Care" and successfully recruited lawyers to do more *pro bono* work in the state. During his term, TBA membership reached all-time highs. Tarpley is also a fellow of the Nashville and Tennessee Bar Associations.

Additionally, he was appointed by the speaker of the Tennessee House of Representatives in 2004 to serve a six-year term on the Tennessee Judicial Selection Commission.

Tarpley formerly served as the first vice-president and as a member of the board of directors of the Nashville Bar Association and was the founding member of Nashville Young Lawyers Conference. He is also a former president of the Tennessee Young Lawyers Conference.

Tarpley has been an active member of the ABA. He has served as assembly clerk and speaker of the Young Lawyers Division and is a former editor of the ABA's *Barrister* magazine. In addition to serving as the current vice-chair of the

TIPS Fall Meeting • October 2-5, 2008 • Hilton Head Island, SC
ABA Midyear Meeting • February 11-17, 2009 • Boston, MA
TIPS Spring Meeting • April 23-26, 2009 • Colorado Springs, CO
ABA Annual Meeting • July 30-August 4, 2009 • Chicago, IL

Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section, Tarpley is also a council member.

The ABA Tort Trial & Insurance Practice Section unites plaintiff, defense, insurance and corporate counsel to advance the civil justice system. TIPS is a national source of expertise in tort, trial and insurance practice and brings lawyers together to share information and speak out on issues of importance. The section has more than 35,000 members and 34 general committees that focus on substantive and procedural matters in areas across the broad spectrum of civil law and practice.

With more than 413,000 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.