Banner & Witcoff Elects First Woman President

February 3, 2009

Janice V. Mitrius is the First Woman Elected President of Banner & Witcoff

(February 3, 2009) – Banner & Witcoff, Ltd., a leading intellectual property law firm dedicated to the procurement, enforcement and litigation of intellectual property rights throughout the world, is pleased to announce the election of the firm's first woman President, Janice V. Mitrius.

Ms. Mitrius is a Shareholder and has served on the Board of Directors for more than three years. Ms. Mitrius is an active member of the ABA and currently serves in a leadership role as Co-Chair of the Judicial Intern Opportunity Program Committee for the ABA Section of Litigation. Most recently, Super Lawyers named Ms. Mitrius to their 2009 list of "Top 50 Women Attorneys in Illinois."

Ms. Mitrius joined the firm in 1997 and focuses her practice on intellectual property litigation. As a first chair and key member of litigation teams, Ms. Mitrius has obtained successful results for several Fortune 500 clients. Ms. Mitrius litigates patent cases covering a wide range of technologies including: internet sales methods, injection molding equipment, diapers, feminine hygiene products, instant messaging, athletic shoes, steam turbine engines, plastics processing and extrusions, voting machines, railroad cars, and rapid prototyping. Prior to joining Banner & Witcoff, she worked as a mechanical engineer for Allied Signal (now Honeywell) for five years. During that time, she also broadened her business sense by obtaining an MBA.

"We are thrilled to announce Janice as our first woman President. Janice's superb legal and business instincts give her a unique edge in her litigation practice and will serve her well in her new position as President," stated former President, Thomas K. Pratt.

Please direct all media inquires to Colleen Strasser at cstrasser@bannerwitcoff.com or 312.463.5465.

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