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CONTACT:
Karen Korr
Jack Berkman
BERKMAN
619-231-9977
619-944-0650 (Karen's Cell)
karen@berkmanpr.com
jack@berkmanpr.com

Nicole Matthews
Luce Forward
619- 699-5521
nmatthews@luce.com

LUCE FORWARD NAMES THREE NEW PARTNERS

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (Dec. 5, 2006) – Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP attorneys Karen M. Clemes, Karolina A. Ericsson, and Jason A. Femrite have been elected partners of the firm, effective Jan. 1, 2007.

“Karen, Karolina, and Jason are extremely accomplished attorneys, who have demonstrated the integrity, excellence and commitment necessary to achieve a successful and significant professional career. Their skill and dedication have provided important contributions to the successes of our clients and the betterment of our community,” said Robert J. Bell, Luce Forward’s Managing Partner. “Election to partner in our firm is recognition of the outstanding professional accomplishments of these fine attorneys.”

Clemes, who practices in the firm's downtown San Diego office, specializes in employment discrimination and harassment, wrongful termination, retaliation, disability claims, wage and hour issues and trade secret issues as a part of the firm's Labor and Employment Practice Group. Her practice includes both litigation (including class action defense) and preventative counseling and training. She serves as Vice Chair, Board of Directors of Partnerships With Industry, an organization that provides job training, placement, and ongoing support services for adults with developmental disabilities to work in the community. Clemes is also Chair-Elect, Board of Directors for the J. Reuben Clark Law Society. She earned both Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees from Brigham Young University, and a Juris Doctor degree *summa cum laude* from California Western School of Law. Clemes began practicing at Luce Forward in 1999, and previously served as Law Clerk to the Honorable David R. Thompson, U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit.

Ericsson is also based in the firm’s downtown San Diego office, and specializes in real estate transactions including acquisitions as a part of the firm’s tenant-in-common (TIC)

specialization. A member of Luce Forward's Real Estate Practice Group, Ericsson's practice also includes affordable housing issues. She is a Board Member of the Wakeland Housing and Development Corporation, an organization that works to develop quality affordable housing projects with resident-education programs for low-income families. She is a Mentor Attorney and Advisory Committee member of VIP Mentors, an organization that matches parolees from the California Youth Authority (CYA) with lawyers who act as mentors. Ericsson is also a Board Member of Community Connection, and a member of the San Diego Housing Federation Board. Prior to joining Luce Forward, Ericsson served as a Law Clerk to the Honorable Napoleon A. Jones, Jr., U.S. District Court, Southern District. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California San Diego and a Juris Doctor from Stanford Law School. Ericsson was the recipient of the Foundation of the State Bar of California Scholarship.

Femrite, is based in the firm's Carmel Valley/Del Mar office and has been practicing with Luce Forward for over seven years. He is a member of the firm's Business Practice Group, for which he serves as Co-Chair of the Mergers & Acquisitions and Corporate Finance Sections. His practice includes an emphasis on mergers and acquisitions, as well as private equity, corporate and venture finance, securities and general corporate matters. He represents both private and publicly held companies, funds and investment firms in a wide range of transactions from structure and formation to capitalization, finance and acquisition. Femrite represents clients in many industries, including biotechnology, life sciences, action sports, venture finance, manufacturing and homebuilding. He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California San Diego, and a Juris Doctor, *cum laude* and *Order of the Coif* from the University of San Diego.

Founded in 1873, Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP is a full-service California law firm with offices in San Diego, Carmel Valley/Del Mar, Los Angeles, Rancho Santa Fe and San Francisco. For more information, visit www.luce.com.

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