

Adams and Reese Expands to Florida *Firm Continues Regional Growth*

Effective January 1, 2010, Adams and Reese will add two new Florida offices, St. Petersburg and Sarasota, to the firm's regional footprint adding nearly 60 attorneys and staff formerly with the Ft. Lauderdale-based law firm, Ruden McClosky. The announcement was made by Charles P. Adams, Jr., Managing Partner of the law firm of Adams and Reese LLP.

The addition of 23 attorneys in Florida further strengthens the regional footprint and client services of Adams and Reese and increases the firm's size to over 280 lawyers in twelve offices in eleven markets including: St. Petersburg and Sarasota, FL; Memphis and Nashville, TN; New Orleans and Baton Rouge, LA; Birmingham and Mobile, AL; Houston, TX; Jackson, MS; and Washington, DC.

According to Adams, "We are very pleased to have achieved growth this year while many law firms across the country have been making significant reductions. The addition of our two new offices is very exciting for our firm, and we plan to grow them even larger."

Adams continues, "Our firm's expansion into Florida will further enable us to add value to the services we provide our clients with experience in an even broader geographic region." The new offices now expand the firm's reach across the Gulf Coast through the Florida Panhandle, and down the entire west coast of Florida.

"The depth of talent and experience joining Adams and Reese is outstanding and further broadens the reach of our diverse practice mix," said Adams. "It is a perfect, strategic move for us and we are very excited about our two new offices and our future growth potential in the Florida market."

Adams continues, "Our firm is a solid, diversified, well-managed firm with a healthy client base located throughout the South Central United States and Washington DC. This has helped us not only weather unprecedented storms, but also the most recent economic downturn."

According to partner and spokesperson for the Florida offices, David S. Bernstein, "As we looked to better meet client needs, joining a regional firm was the most logical and efficient course."

V. James Dickson will serve as Partner in Charge of the St. Petersburg office and John M. Dart will serve as Partner in Charge of the Sarasota office.

Dickson of the St. Petersburg office adds, "Adams and Reese has earned a powerful reputation by focusing on results for their clients and is a perfect fit for us. We considered a number of firms and Adams and Reese was definitely the best business model for us."

According to Dart of the Sarasota office, “Having a well-defined vision and a long-term strategic plan was very attractive to us in our deliberations about our future direction. It will further enable us to add value to the services we provide our clients, with expanded areas of practice and experience in a broader geographic region.”

Adams continues, “We are proud to have added numerous attorneys within various practice areas over the past several years and while we looked to grow our business and better meet client needs, we are pleased to expand our regional reach with offices in Florida and welcome the talented attorneys joining our firm.”

Attorneys joining Adams and Reese in the Sarasota office include: David L. Boyette, John M. Dart, Thomas H. Dart, Robert J. Gill, Nicholas C. Gladding, Barry F. Spivey, and Louis M. Ursini.

Attorneys joining Adams and Reese in the St. Petersburg office include: David S. Bernstein, V. James Dickson, Richard H. Malchon, Jr., T. Joseph McNabb, Joey E. Schlosberg, V. Lee Ann Tranford, and L. Geoffrey Young.

Adams and Reese has more than 50 years experience working with local, regional, national and international corporations, agencies, municipalities, universities and individuals. The firm’s client list includes companies in a wide variety of industries ranging from manufacturing, shipping, and oil, gas and energy resources, to banking and finance, real estate, health care and telecommunications. It is a multidisciplinary firm providing legal counsel in practice areas as diverse as labor and employment, entertainment, mergers and acquisitions and corporate law to product liability, class action litigation, intellectual property and governmental relations.