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Former McKnight Foundation Interim President Joins Briggs Executive Brings GC Perspective as Asset for Business Planning, Mentoring

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN. (May 8, 2007) – Peggy J. Birk joins Briggs and Morgan, Professional Association, as an Of Counsel attorney after her most recent high-level position as interim president for Minnesota's largest private foundation, the McKnight Foundation.

"Peg has been a friend of the firm for many years, starting with her role as St. Paul city attorney in the late '90s," says Briggs and Morgan President Alan Maclin. "We are honored to have a business woman of such accomplishment and proven leadership join Briggs as a role model and coach for other attorneys. In addition, we anticipate that Peg's many talents, extensive general counsel experience and business network will be a significant asset for furthering our business development goals."

[Peg Birk](#) has served in many high-level positions at the helm of complex corporate, nonprofit and government organizations, including Fortune 25, 500 and 1000 insurance companies; Minnesota's largest private foundation; the City of St. Paul; and the Minnesota attorney general's office. She most recently served as interim president for the McKnight Foundation, where over the course of 13 months, Birk managed an impressive reorganization, and also spearheaded the restatement of the foundation's mission and values. Under Birk's leadership, the McKnight Foundation approved approximately \$90 million in grants in 2006.

Birk's professional resume also includes: senior vice president and general counsel, Federated Insurance Companies; general counsel, Domestic Brokerage Group of American International Group (AIG); city attorney, City of St. Paul; and senior government affairs counsel, The St. Paul Companies. She is active on several local nonprofit boards, including the board of directors for the McKnight Foundation, Minnesota Women's Economic Round Table and the Minnesota Early Learning Foundation. She is also on the Hamline University board of trustees, the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs' dean's advisory council and serves as co-chair of the Center for Religious Inquiry at St. Mark's Cathedral.

Birk graduated from the University of Houston with a B.A. in philosophy. She received her law degree from William Mitchell College of Law and served as law clerk to the Honorable Edward J. Parker of the Minnesota Court of Appeals.

Celebrating 125 years in 2007, Briggs and Morgan, Professional Association, is a trusted name in business law and litigation services. Headquartered in Minneapolis, Minnesota, with an office in St. Paul, the firm has more than 160 attorneys committed to providing superior client service and sound legal counsel to clients nationwide. Briggs is a founding member of Lex Mundi, the world's leading association of independent law firms, and serves as its exclusive member firm for Minnesota. The firm has received numerous accolades, including recognition as a "Go To" law firm in corporate transaction, corporate governance and litigation by *Corporate Counsel Magazine*. For more information, visit briggs.com.