

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Contact:
Rebecca E. Farbo
Phillips Lytle LLP
716-847-8307

PHILLIPS LYTLE LLP CELEBRATES 175th ANNIVERSARY IN 2009

Firm to conduct special events and activities in markets across New York State as part of yearlong celebration

BUFFALO, NY – In recognition of its 175th anniversary in 2009, Phillips Lytle, one of the region's best known law firms, is planning a series of yearlong special events, recognitions and activities in the various markets where the firm has offices across New York State. In addition to its Buffalo office, Phillips Lytle has offices in Chautauqua, Rochester, Albany, New York City and Long Island.

"Being in business for 175 years is truly a remarkable accomplishment," said David J. McNamara, managing partner. "Our firm is proud to be a part of the fabric of Buffalo's history and over the years we have had the privilege of becoming part of other communities in New York State through our continued growth."

Since opening in 1834, the firm has had a distinguished roster of attorneys, including President Grover Cleveland; postmaster generals Nathan K. Hall (Fillmore Administration) and Wilson S. Bissell (Cleveland Administration); United States District Court Magistrate Judge Jeremiah J. McCarthy; Clerk of the District Court, Western District of New York, Orsamus H. Marshall; Justices of the New York State Supreme Court Hon. Daniel J. Kenefick, Hon. Walter J. Mahoney and Hon. John M. Curran; United States Congressman Lyman K. Bass; and New York State Assemblyman William A. Moseley. Throughout 2009, the firm will make charitable donations in each of its markets as well as honor and recognize current and past attorneys, employees and clients. Phillips Lytle will hold a special celebration event in September 2009 for clients in observance of the official anniversary date of the firm's founding. In addition, a book highlighting the firm's history, written by Dick Hirsch, will also be published.

"Our success through the years is the result of our hard working and dedicated attorneys and staff, but most importantly because of our clients, many of whom have been with us for decades," McNamara continued.

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From its humble beginnings as the law office of Orsamus H. Marshall, which opened in 1834 in Buffalo, Phillips Lytle now employs more than 425 individuals in seven offices, including more than 170 attorneys who work with a diverse client base, including numerous FORTUNE 500 clients as well as global financial institutions, middle market companies and family-run businesses. The firm holds the distinction of being one of only forty-two DuPont Primary Law Firms. Other clients include AT&T, BlueCross BlueShield of WNY, Catholic Health System, Ford Motor Credit Company, National Fuel and Rich Products Corporation.

The firm and its attorneys have been involved in local charitable and philanthropic activities throughout its long history. The founding of the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society is among the most notable highlights. Locally, regionally and nationally, Phillips Lytle today supports more than 400 community organizations through volunteering, board positions, financial contributions and donated legal services.

“Our 175th anniversary provides us the opportunity to show our appreciation for the clients and communities that have allowed us to reach this milestone,” McNamara concluded.

Phillips Lytle is a full-service law firm with seven offices across New York State in Buffalo, Albany, Chautauqua, Garden City, New York City and Rochester. With the farthest geographic reach of any law firm in the state of New York, they are well equipped to meet the needs of their clients.

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Firm Fact Sheet

About Phillips Lytle

Attorneys practicing within each of the firm's seven offices tap into Phillips Lytle's statewide and national practice to offer clients the advantage of a network of offices across the state. Across the firm's seven offices, Phillips Lytle employs more than 425, including more than 170 attorneys.

Phillips Lytle's diverse client base includes numerous *Fortune 500* clients as well as global financial institutions, middle market companies and family-run businesses. The firm holds the distinction of being one of only forty-two DuPont Primary Law Firms. Other clients include AT&T, BlueCross BlueShield of WNY, Catholic Health System, Citibank, Coach, Ford Motor Credit Company, National Fuel and Rich Products to name a few.

Locally, regionally and nationally, Phillips Lytle supports more than 400 community organizations through volunteering, board positions, financial contributions and donated legal services.

Firm offices

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| <u>Buffalo</u> | 3400 HSBC Center, Buffalo, NY 14203, 716-847-8400 |
| <u>Albany</u> | Omni Plaza, 30 South Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12207, 518-472-1224 |
| <u>Chautauqua</u> | 8 East Third Street, Suite 307, Jamestown, NY 14702, 716-664-3906 11 East Main Street, Fredonia, NY 14063, 716-672-2164 |
| <u>Garden City</u> | 1100 Franklin Avenue, Garden City, NY 11530, 516-742-5201 |
| <u>New York City</u> | 437 Madison Avenue, 34 th Floor, New York, NY 10022, 212-759-4888 |
| <u>Rochester</u> | 1400 First Federal Plaza, Rochester, NY 14614, 585-232-3141 |

Firm Managing Partner

David J. McNamara

Attorneys

Phillips Lytle employs over 170 attorneys, including 87 partners.

Legal Practice

Phillips Lytle is organized around five main practice groups: Commercial; Corporate; Family Wealth Planning; Labor & Employment; and Litigation. These five groups cover more than 45 different practice areas.

Recognition

The firm has 43 attorneys in New York State who are listed in the prestigious *Best Lawyers in America*[®]. The firm ranks #1 in the state for commercial litigation attorneys and trusts and estates attorneys.

A total of 42 partners firm-wide, the most attorneys from a single firm, are recognized on the list of *Upstate New York Super Lawyers*.



Firm Historical Timeline

1834 – Orsamus H. Marshall, founder of the current law firm of Phillips Lytle LLP, begins his law practice in Buffalo, NY.

1862 – Orsamus H. Marshall retires from the firm of Marshall & Harvey. Lyman K. Bass joins the firm and the firm continues under the name of Harvey & Bass.

1872 – Wilson S. Bissell joins the firm to become Bass & Bissell. Bissell served as Postmaster General for President Cleveland's Cabinet.

1874 – Grover Cleveland joins Lyman K. Bass and Wilson S. Bissell to form Bass, Cleveland & Bissell.

1881 – Lyman K. Bass goes West and Grover Cleveland is elected Mayor of Buffalo, NY.

1883 – Grover Cleveland becomes Governor of New York State.

1884 – Grover Cleveland becomes President of the United States.

1892 – Grover Cleveland re-elected as President of the United States.

1897 – Walter P. Cooke joins Wilson S. Bissell, Martin Carey and James McCormick Mitchell to form Bissell, Carey & Cooke.

1906 – Walter P. Cooke persuades Daniel J. Kenefick, former State Supreme Court Justice, to join Lyman M. Bass and James McCormick Mitchell to form Kenefick, Cooke & Mitchell.

1911 – Edward H. Letchworth resigns as Deputy Attorney General of New York State to join the firm.

1921 – Christopher Baldy joins the firm.

1928 – George F. Phillips joins the firm.

1929 – The firm becomes Kenefick, Cooke, Mitchell, Bass & Letchworth. This is where the firm established the foundation for its present practice.

1945 – Daniel G. Yorkey joins the firm.

1946 – William E. Lytle joins the firm.

1948 – Robert M. Hitchcock joins the firm.

1950 – Due to the passing of Cooke (1932) and Mitchell (1948), firm becomes Kenefick, Bass, Letchworth, Baldy & Phillips.

1956 – Charles G. Blaine joins the firm.

1960 – Walter J. Mahoney, former Majority Leader of the New York State Senate, joins the firm to form Phillips, Mahoney, Lytle, Yorkey & Letchworth.

1965 – Walter J. Mahoney withdraws from the firm and later becomes State Supreme Court Justice. The firm name becomes Phillips, Lytle, Yorkey, Letchworth, Hitchcock & Blaine.

1967 – John F. Huber, Jr. joins the firm. Firm adopts the name of Phillips, Lytle, Hitchcock, Blaine and Huber LLP.

1978 – Firm combines with the Jamestown, NY firm of Cadwell & Sharpe to form the firm's Jamestown office.

1982 – Firm combines with the Rochester, NY firm of Sullivan, Johnson, Peters, Burns, Adams and Mullin to form the firm's Rochester office. Firm opens office in New York City.

1994 – Firm combines with Fredonia, NY firm of Collesano, Sommer & Eades to form the firm's Fredonia office.

2000 – Albrecht, Maguire, Heffern & Gregg Buffalo attorneys join Phillips, Lytle, Hitchcock, Blaine & Huber LLP.

2002 – Firm opens office in Garden City, NY.

2003 – Firm shortens name to Phillips Lytle LLP.

2006 – Honen & Wood P.C. Albany attorneys join Phillips Lytle to form the firm's Albany office.

2009 – Firm celebrates 175th anniversary.