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**CROWELL & MORING GAINS EXPERIENCED INSURANCE/REINSURANCE
PARTNER DEIRDRE JOHNSON**

Washington, D.C. – May 4, 2009: Crowell & Moring LLP has further expanded both its insurance and reinsurance practice through the addition of new partner Deirdre G. Johnson to the firm's Washington, DC office. Johnson brings more than 15 years of experience to the firm's Insurance/Reinsurance Group, where she will handle a wide variety of insurance and reinsurance litigation and arbitration proceedings in the U.S., Bermuda, London, and European markets. Johnson joins from Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP.

"During the past few years, Crowell & Moring's Insurance/Reinsurance Group has significantly expanded its team of lawyers focused on serving the needs of the reinsurance industry. This team is a critical and growing part of our overall Insurance/Reinsurance Group, and Deirdre's move further enhances the experience and knowledge base we can offer our clients. Deirdre is known for providing the kind of sophisticated, practical counsel that comes from having served the industry her entire career," said Paul W. Kalish, co-chair of Crowell & Moring's Insurance/Reinsurance Group.

Johnson has handled multimillion dollar insurance and reinsurance coverage disputes, in both domestic and international proceedings, involving a wide variety of subject matters. She assists both ceding companies and reinsurers in controversies involving a variety of complex issues, and her practice also includes handling insurance coverage litigation and defending public corporations in class actions, derivative lawsuits, mergers and acquisitions litigation, and SEC enforcement actions. Johnson has extensive domestic and international trial, arbitration and deposition experience, including adversarial proceedings governed by the Bermuda International Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1993 and the UNCITRAL Model Law on International Commercial Arbitration. She represents various London market insurers and reinsurers in complex disputes including those relating to financial institutions, directors and officers coverage, liability, surety, financial guaranty and property and casualty issues.

Johnson's work has included representing an international life reinsurer in a class action alleging material misstatements in financials concerning certain valuation allowances on deferred tax assets and the company's Sarbanes-Oxley certifications. She has also led internal investigations of reserving practices employed by Health Maintenance Organizations and property/casualty reinsurers in response to shareholder demand letters.

"I am excited to join Crowell & Moring because the firm has invested in building a team of top lawyers who are embedded in the reinsurance community and understand the unique challenges faced by international insurers and reinsurers. They're committed to the industry, and that shows in their dedication to client service. Another compelling characteristic about the firm, particularly in this challenging economy, is that Crowell & Moring encourages the use of alternative fee arrangements that better align the firm's interests with our clients, which the group has been committed to for many years. This is just one example of the Insurance/Reinsurance Group's thoughtful response to our clients' needs," said Johnson.

Johnson received her B.A. from the University of Tennessee and her J.D. from the Georgetown University Law Center.

Crowell & Moring LLP's Insurance/Reinsurance Group concentrates on coverage and bankruptcy litigation, reinsurance disputes, international regulatory actions, broker disputes, and client counseling and negotiations in a number of areas, including property and casualty, bankruptcy, life, accident and health, errors and omissions, directors and officers, health care, and legislative matters. The group represents more than 20 different insurance and reinsurance companies from more than a dozen different insurance carrier groups in a wide range of matters arising in many different jurisdictions, including those in the United States, the United Kingdom, Europe, Asia and Bermuda. It has been ranked in Chambers USA by clients and peers as a leading practice, and many of the group's partners have been individually recognized for their experience and client service.

Crowell & Moring LLP is an international law firm with more than 450 lawyers practicing in litigation, antitrust, government contracts, health care, corporate, intellectual property and a variety of other practice areas. More than two-thirds of the firm's attorneys regularly litigate disputes on behalf of domestic and international corporations, start-up businesses, and individuals. Crowell & Moring's extensive client work ranges from advising on one of the world's largest telecommunications mergers to representing governments and corporations on international arbitration matters. Based in Washington, D.C., the firm also has offices in New York, London, Brussels, Los Angeles, and Orange County, CA. Visit Crowell & Moring online at <http://www.crowell.com>.