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PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

January 7, 2010

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CRANFILL SUMNER & HARTZOG LLP ANNOUNCES NEW PARTNERS

RALEIGH, N.C. – The civil defense firm of Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP today announced the following new additions to the firm's partnership:

Jesse J. Blyth – Jesse has been practicing law since 1997 and has been with the **Wilmington office** of Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP since 2005. He concentrates his practice in the defense of architects and engineers in construction litigation, as well as defending businesses in premises and product liability claims. Jesse's practice includes all facets of construction law arising out of public and private projects. He has also defended and served as counsel for clients including product manufacturers, equipment manufacturers and premises owners. Jesse attended the University of California, Santa Barbara for his undergraduate studies and received his J.D. from the University of San Diego School of Law. State bar admissions include California in 1997 and North Carolina in 2005. Other bar admissions include the U.S. District Court, Southern District of California and Eastern District of North Carolina.

Katherine Hilkey-Boyatt – Since joining the **Raleigh office** of Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP in 2001, Katherine has focused her practice on cases involving medical malpractice and professional negligence as well as long-term care/nursing home defense. Representative clients include various individual health care providers, long term care providers and numerous other individuals and entities. She routinely handles cases in the State and Federal Courts of North Carolina. Katherine attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for her undergraduate studies. She received her J.D. from the University of North Carolina School of Law in Chapel Hill.

Dawn Conger Lane - Dawn has been defending employers and insurance companies with Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog's **Raleigh office** since 2002. Prior to joining Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog, she represented plaintiffs from 1998-2002 in workers' compensation cases, personal injury matters other civil suits and estate and financial planning. Dawn has experience with all levels of workers' compensation litigation including motions, mediations, hearings with a Deputy Commissioner, Full Commission oral arguments and appeals to the state appellate courts. She has handled numerous claims involving a variety of issues ranging from injury by accident, occupational disease, medical causation, medical treatment, vocational rehabilitation and return to work issues. Dawn received her undergraduate degree from Campbell University and her J.D. from the North Carolina Central University School of Law.

About Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP

Founded in 1992, Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP is a law firm which concentrates its practice in the defense of civil claims and lawsuits, representing individuals and businesses of all types. Consistently ranked as one of the largest in North Carolina, the firm has more than 100 attorneys and three locations: Raleigh, Charlotte and Wilmington. The firm handles cases in a variety of practice areas, including medical and professional negligence, products liability, construction defects, police and municipal law, premises liability and security, trucking/transportation law, education law, employment law, workers' compensation claims, commercial litigation, environmental and toxic torts and land condemnation. With its experienced litigators and support personnel utilizing the latest technology available, Cranfill Sumner & Hartzog LLP is generally recognized as one of the most creative and innovative litigation firms in the state today. For more information, visit www.cshlaw.com or call 919-828- 5100.