



Women's Bar Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF MASSACHUSETTS USHERS IN NEW PRESIDENT, MICHELLE PEIRCE

(BOSTON, MA) – March 11, 2009. The WBA announced at its Annual Meeting today that Boston litigator Michelle R. Peirce will be the WBA President for the 2009-2010 term. Ms. Peirce succeeds Kathy Jo Cook as President of the organization, which boasts of a growing membership of more than 1500 women lawyers, judges and law students.

During her term, Ms. Peirce will focus her attention on continuing to build the WBA's relationship with the business community, advancing the WBA's legislative priorities, and growing its membership statewide. Ms. Peirce stated, "I look forward to the year ahead and, despite the economy, am planning on further growth in our membership across Massachusetts. Particularly in the present economic climate, women lawyers should look to one another as supportive colleagues and invaluable resources in business. The WBA provides a dynamic professional and social network for women to do just that. I am honored to be leading this organization."

Outgoing President Kathy Jo Cook stated, "I have had the great privilege of working with Michelle this past year, and her contributions have been impressive. She is bright, hardworking, and great fun to be around. She is enthusiastically committed to meeting the needs of our members as well as women who have not yet joined the WBA. She has the foresight and good

judgment needed to be an exceptional president. I can think of no better person to lead the organization at this time. I am confident that under her leadership the WBA will continue to expand its influence and its membership throughout Massachusetts.”

Ms. Peirce, a 1990 graduate of Boston College Law School, is a partner in the litigation department of the Boston law firm of Donoghue Barrett & Singal, P.C. She specializes in complex civil litigation and white-collar criminal defense. After clerking for one year in the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, Ms. Peirce started her career at Goodwin Procter & Hoar, which included a rotation as a special assistant district attorney in Middlesex County. She then worked at Lawyers Weekly, Inc., where she was Vice President of Marketing for all of Lawyers Weekly’s publications nationwide, including Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly, before she rejoined the practice of law at Donoghue Barrett & Singal. Ms. Peirce is a member of the Board of Trustees for the Women’s Bar Foundation and is a member of the Massachusetts Lawyers Weekly Board of Editors.

About the Women’s Bar Association of Massachusetts

Founded in 1978 by a group of activist women lawyers, the Women’s Bar Association is one of the oldest and largest bar associations in the country. Today, the organization boasts a membership of more than 1500 women lawyers, judges and law students across Massachusetts. The WBA is committed to the full and equal participation of women in the legal profession and in a just society. The WBA works to achieve this mission through committees and task forces, and by developing and promoting a legislative agenda to address society’s most critical social and legal issues. Other WBA activities include drafting amicus briefs, studying employment issues affecting women, encouraging women to enter the judiciary, recognizing the achievement of women in the law, and providing pro bono services to women in need through supporting its charitable sister organization, the Women’s Bar Foundation. For more information, visit www.womensbar.org.

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