

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Baird Holm's Thomas Johnson Inducted to American College of Trial Lawyers**

OMAHA, Neb. (November 6, 2008) – Thomas E. Johnson, a partner and litigator at Baird Holm LLP, has been inducted as a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers (ACTL), one of the premier legal associations whose membership includes a select group of trial lawyers in the United States and Canada.

The induction ceremony for Johnson took place recently before an audience of more than 800 persons during the 2008 Annual Meeting of the College in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Founded in 1950, the College is dedicated to maintaining and improving the standards of trial practice, the administration of justice and the ethics of the profession.

Fellowship in the ACTL is extended by invitation only, and after careful investigation, to those experienced trial lawyers who have mastered the art of advocacy and whose professional careers are marked by the highest standards of ethical conduct, professionalism, civility and collegiality. Qualified lawyers are called to Fellowship in the ACTL from all branches of trial practice. They are selected from among those who customarily represent plaintiffs in civil cases and those who customarily represent defendants, those who prosecute individuals accused of crime and those who defend them. Lawyers must have a minimum of 15 years trial experience before they can be considered for Fellowship.

ACTL Fellows never make up more than one percent of the total lawyer population of a state or province. Baird Holm has three other attorneys who are Fellows of ACTL. These are Kirk Blecha, a partner in the firm who was inducted into the ACTL in 2007; Bill Dittrick, also a partner in the firm and 2006 president of the Nebraska State Bar Association; and D. Nick Caporale, of counsel to Baird Holm and a former Nebraska Supreme Court Justice.

Thomas E. Johnson practices in the area of commercial litigation with an emphasis on medical and other technology-intensive issues. He joined the firm in 1974 and has more than 30 years' experience in the federal and state courts throughout the United States.

Baird Holm LLP is a multi-service law firm with 75 attorneys providing results-oriented counsel for corporate, institutional, governmental and individual clients. Baird Holm is the exclusive member firm for Nebraska with Lex Mundi, the world's leading association of independent law firms.

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