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BADC Corporate Law Committee Lands Important Role as Charter Member of National Working Group

Our Corporate Law Committee has successfully placed the BADC in an influential leadership role in the development of a national consensus with regard to legal opinions. Opinions of counsel, which are regularly required to close a wide variety of transactions, are an important component of the practice of corporate and transactional attorneys. Various reports by the ABA, as well as the Tri-Bar and the American Law Institute, have provided guidance to attorneys and the judiciary thus far, but a Working Group for a National Consensus on Legal Opinions ("WGLO") has now been formed by the ABA. The ABA brought together law firms, state and local bars, opinion recipients, rating agencies, insurers and other organizations recognized as commentators on opinion practice.

Through the efforts of the Corporate Law Committee and it's newly-formed Subcommittee on Legal Opinion Practice, chaired by Jim Rosenhauer of Hogan & Hartson, the BADC was accepted as one of the charter members of this ABA Working Group, together with six other nationally prominent bar groups. The BADC now serves as a member of the Advisory Board for Bar Associations which, with the Law Firm Advisory Board, runs the national WGLO program (whose participants have grown to 92 law firms and 28 bar groups and other industry members).

"This is a great opportunity and privilege for the BADC since we are the only bar association in the Washington metro area in this leadership position." said David Shaheen, a partner with Burk & Reedy, LLP and the Chairman of the BADC's Corporate Law Committee. "In the future, our committee members will be able to materially participate through commentary and otherwise in the development of this important area of the law. I would like to invite any BADC members who are involved in legal opinion practice to send me an email at dshaheen@burkreedy.com and indicate if they would be interested in supporting the efforts of our subcommittee in some way in the future."