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WILLKIE ANNOUNCES NEW CO-CHAIRS

New York, NY (January 4, 2010) --- Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP today announced that effective January 1, 2010, partners Thomas M. Cerabino and Steven J. Gartner have become Co-Chairmen of the firm. Mr. Cerabino and Mr. Gartner have been serving as Co-Vice Chairmen since April 2008, when the firm announced its succession plan. Both Mr. Cerabino and Mr. Gartner have been with Willkie for more than 25 years.

Jack H. Nusbaum, who has served as Chairman for the past 23 years, has been and will continue to be a major force within both the firm and the legal community. He will continue his active M&A and Corporate Governance practice and will play an integral role in encouraging the next generation of Willkie lawyers to embrace the entrepreneurial spirit that has been a hallmark of the firm's success. He will also continue to serve on the firm's nine-member Executive Committee.

"Tom and Steve represent the very best of what we are about," said Mr. Nusbaum. "They have the respect of their partners and the confidence of our clients, and they know how to manage a practice. Both grew up together on the Executive Committee and it's always been perceived that they were future leaders. They complement each other, having similar values, skills and diversity of practice. They've been a team for many years and the firm has become entirely comfortable with them."

“Jack Nusbaum has been one of the titans of the legal community over the past two decades and more. He has led Willkie through a tremendous growth period and we have been extremely fortunate to have had the benefit of his wisdom, his leadership and his business acumen. He is a terrific lawyer, and we look forward to continuing to have him as a partner in the firm for many years,” said Mr. Cerabino.

“It is both an honor and a tremendous responsibility to have been selected as a leader of the firm,” said Mr. Gartner. “The legal landscape has changed, but the goals remain the same: Bring the highest level of quality and value to clients while maintaining our philosophy and culture. Maintaining the unique environment that Willkie has fostered is critical to helping both clients and lawyers grow, and our goal is to continue to develop this extraordinary firm of which we are so proud,” he added.

Mr. Cerabino specializes in mergers and acquisitions, debt restructurings, and general corporate and securities law matters. Mr. Gartner specializes in private equity, mergers and acquisitions, and corporate governance matters.

Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP is an international law firm of approximately 700 attorneys with offices in New York, Washington, Paris, London, Milan, Rome, Frankfurt and Brussels. The firm is headquartered in New York City at 787 Seventh Avenue. Tel: 212.728.8000.