

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CONNIE R. THACKER FIRST WEST MICHIGAN FEMALE ATTORNEY ELECTED TO
SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN FAMILY LAW COUNCIL**

(GRAND RAPIDS, MI – September 19, 2011)— **Connie R. Thacker**, an equity shareholder with the Grand Rapids law firm of Rhoades McKee, was elected to serve as the Chair of the State Bar Family Law Council. She is the first female attorney from West Michigan elected since the establishment of the council in 1980.

Thacker is a Fellow in the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML), a current member of the ICLE Family Law Advisory Board and a Co-Chair of the Alternative Family Law Committee of the State Bar of Michigan. She is a current member of the American Bar Association and Michigan Council for Family and Divorce Mediation. A recipient of the ICLE Family Certificate Program, Thacker has also been recognized by her peers in *Best Lawyers*, *Family Law* and *Western Michigan's Best Lawyers*.

Thacker concentrates her practice in the areas of litigated and non-litigated family law matters, including business valuations, custody, and parenting time cases throughout Western Michigan. In addition, she practices in the area of estate planning for traditional and non-traditional families. Thacker is a trained and certified mediator of family law cases and is certified in domestic violence screening.

She received her B. A. in Jurisprudence from the University of Baltimore and graduated cum laude from Thomas M. Cooley School of Law.

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About Rhoades McKee (www.rhoadesmckee.com):

Founded in 1960, Rhoades McKee is a 54-member, Grand Rapids-based law firm representing consumers and businesses in a wide range of legal matters, including business, tax and corporate law; real estate, construction and environmental law; health care law, labor and employment law; estate planning and probate law; family law; health care law professional liability and insurance defense; bankruptcy law; and litigation and dispute resolution.