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**CONNIE R. THACKER ACCEPTED INTO THE
AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MATRIMONIAL LAWYERS**

(GRAND RAPIDS, MI-February 6, 2010) – On February 2, 2010, **Connie R. Thacker**, an equity shareholder at the Grand Rapids law firm of Rhoades McKee, was notified of her admission into the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers (AAML).

Thacker is one of only two female attorneys obtaining this admission in West Michigan. This distinction is currently held by only six other attorneys in West Michigan. Founded in 1962, the AAML (www.aaml.org) requires a minimum of ten years experience in family law, recognition by the bench and bar for professionalism and integrity, continued education and publication requirements, a proven practice, and consistent with the advancement of family law, and successful completion of the interview and rigorous exam.

Against the back drop of numerous professional honors, Connie’s acceptance into the AAML is a prestigious recognition not easily obtained by professionals in her practice area. It is a true testimony to her established reputation of excellence in serving clients in West Michigan,” stated John Lichtenberg, member of the Executive Committee at Rhoades McKee.

“I intend to use my admission into the AAML to better serve the clients which I represent,” said Thacker. I would also like to acknowledge the contributions of my colleagues at Rhoades McKee who share my commitment and dedication in support of protecting Michigan families.

Connie also serves as an Executive Committee Member of the Family Law Section of the Grand Rapids Bar Association. She is also a current member of the ICLE Family Law Advisory Board, the American Bar Association, and the 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*.

Connie concentrates her practice in the areas of complex 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. Connie is a trained and certified mediator of family law cases and is certified in domestic violence screening protocol.

She graduated from the University of Baltimore with a B.A. in Jurisprudence and received her law degree, cum laude, from Thomas M. Cooley School of Law. Thacker is licensed to practice in Michigan, Maryland, District of Columbia, and Colorado.

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About Rhoades McKee (www.rhoadesmckee.com):

Founded in 1960, Rhoades McKee is a 55-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.