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Leadership Council on Legal Diversity Launches Second Year of Fellows Program

Inaugural Class of LCLD Fellows Completes First Year, Building Relationships and Leadership Skills

PHILADELPHIA--(BUSINESS WIRE)--The Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) announced this week that 134 attorneys have been selected for the organization's Fellows Program.

Their selection marks the beginning of the program's second year.

The first year's class of 118 Fellows graduates March 27 in Philadelphia.

"Both of these classes represent some of the most outstanding talent that the legal profession boasts," said Rick Palmore, LCLD Chair and General Counsel for General Mills. "They have been selected by the managing partners and the general counsel of the law firms and corporate legal departments that they serve, so it is a particular honor."

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The program was developed under the leadership of LCLD Talent Development Committee Chair Greg Jordan, Managing Partner of ReedSmith, and Committee Vice Chair Geoff Kelly, former General Counsel for Coca-Cola.

"The program continues for these Fellows beyond the first year," said Jordan. "We are developing a range of alumni activities that will see these Fellows staying active throughout their careers."

"These talented individuals, already recognized within their own organizations, have spent an unparalleled year of professional development," said Robert Grey, Executive Director of the LCLD. "The program is unique in the nation, focusing on increasing success factors for the participants and on the roles they play in our member organizations."

"In addition," said Grey, "the Fellows Program creates valuable peer networking relationships for this select group of lawyers."

The Fellows Program is one of several LCLD initiatives, including programs to address "pipeline" issues that face the profession, encouraging minorities and women to enter the law and supplying programs to increase their likelihood of success in law school.

LCLD has introduced "diversity secondments" which allow talented, diverse attorneys in law firms to work in corporate legal environments, broadening their professional relationships.

"The LCLD has an extraordinarily energetic and ambitious board of directors and membership generally," said Grey. "These individuals are eager and, frankly, impatient to see real results in the makeup of the leadership of the profession."

Formed in 2009, the Leadership Council on Legal Diversity (LCLD) is made up of the general counsels of the nation's preeminent corporations and the managing partners of the nation's leading law firms.

For more information on LCLD, please contact joe.slay@slaycommunications.com or visit: www.lclldnet.org

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