

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 17, 2011

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**Gordon Arata Member Named Interim Director of Louisiana Mineral Law Institute**

New Orleans, LA – Gordon Arata McCollam Duplantis & Eagan, LLC announces that Firm Member resident in the Houston office, J. Lanier Yeates, has been named as the Interim Director of the Louisiana Mineral Law Institute by Louisiana State University Law Center Chancellor, Jack M. Weiss.

The announcement comes following an April 2011 appointment of Mr. Yeates to serve as Chairman of the Louisiana Mineral Law Institute (MLI) Advisory Council. The MLI is a collaborative program with Paul M. Hebert Law Center to foster development of mineral law, provide not only continuing legal educational programs and programs for landmen, but also to serve the bench and the bar in all matters concerning energy.

As Interim Director, Mr. Yeates will be responsible for the oversight all MLI programs and educational initiatives and serve on behalf of the MLI, as the primary liaison to the Law Center and its extensive energy programs.

Over the course of his career, Mr. Yeates served as both a member of the Advisory Council of the Louisiana Mineral Law Institute and its Chairman for multiple terms. Mr. Yeates has been a member of the LSU Foundation since 1994, and, since 2000, has served on its Board of Directors. In 2007 and 2008, Mr. Yeates served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the LSU Foundation, and, in January of 2009, was made a Life Member of the LSU Foundation. He is a director of the LSU Marine Property Foundation. He actively publishes and lectures oil and gas and mineral law matters. In addition to an active energy practice, Mr. Yeates taught Louisiana Oil and Gas Law as a member of the Adjunct Faculty of the University of Houston Law Center where during the spring semester of 2011 he taught “Essentials of Oil and Gas Shale Development.”

Mr. Yeates graduated from LSU Law School in 1981, where he was elected to Order of the Coif and also served as an Associate Editor of the *Louisiana Law Review*. He also received his B.S. from Louisiana State University in 1977. He is licensed to practice law in both Texas and Louisiana.

**About the Louisiana Mineral Law Institute**

The Louisiana Mineral Law Institute was created in 1953 as an annual continuing legal education program. The goal of the Institute is to promote an understanding of Louisiana mineral law and facilitate its development through educational activities. In 2011 the Fifty-Eighth annual institute was held at the LSU Law Center. In addition to consideration of important developments in the law of oil and gas at the annual program, the Mineral Law Institute sponsors other continuing education programs at the Law Center and cooperates with energy related research and educational programs at Louisiana State University. Projects of the Mineral Law Institute presently being implemented include a collaborative Louisiana Mineral Law Treatise, publication of a periodic Louisiana Mineral Law Newsletter, publication of the proceedings of recent Mineral Law Institute programs, and sponsorship of student scholarships for mineral law studies. The planning and activities of the Mineral Law Institute are supported by a Mineral Law Institute Council comprised of leading members of the

energy industry of Louisiana and of other producing states including lawyers, landmen, and other industry professionals.

**About Gordon Arata**

Gordon Arata McCollam Duplantis & Egan, LLC has over 65 attorneys in three Louisiana offices in New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Lafayette and an office in Houston, Texas. Whether litigation or transactions, the Firm's lawyers serve clients locally, regionally, and nationally, and provide services across a wide range of industries aligned with the Firm's offices along the Gulf Coast. The Firm is committed to achieving the best possible results and to fostering relationships with clients.

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