

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 15, 2012

CONTACT: Michael E. Botnick
PHONE: (504) 679-9814
E-MAIL: mbotnick@gordonarata.com

Gordon Arata Member and Firm Honored by Louisiana Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

New Orleans, LA - Gordon Arata McCollam Duplantis & Eagan, LLC is pleased to announce that the Louisiana Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), an agency of the Department of Defense, honored Ewell "Tim" E. Eagan, Jr., Firm Member, Chair of the Management Committee, and former Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy (1969-1973), with the Patriot Award and the Above & Beyond Award in recognition of extraordinary support of its employees who serve in the Louisiana National Guard and Reserve. In addition, the Firm was recognized with the Seven Seals Award.

The awards were presented by Thomas G. Fierke, Louisiana State Chair Emeritus, ESGR, at a noon reception at the offices of Gordon Arata located at 201 St. Charles Avenue on the 40th Floor.

According to Jack Humphries, ESGR Louisiana Chair, "The Patriot Award was created by ESGR to publicly recognize individuals who provide outstanding patriotic support and cooperation to their employees, who like the citizen warriors before them, have answered their nation's call to serve. Tim Eagan was nominated for being highly supportive of the National Guard and Reserve by his Reserve Component employee. Supportive supervisors are critical to maintaining the strength and readiness of the nation's National Guard and Reserve units."

"Support of our troops is very important to the Firm, as well as to me personally and we are honored by the recognition," said Tim Eagan, Gordon Arata Managing Member. "We celebrate and respect the men and women who have served and continue to serve our nation."

The Above and Beyond Award was created by ESGR to publicly recognize American employers providing extraordinary support and cooperation to their employees, who like the citizen warriors before them, have answered their nation's call to serve.

The Seven Seals Award was created to honor a wide array of support for service members from all seven Reserve Components and is the only ESGR award that bridges both the employer and volunteer recognition programs. It was created to publicly recognize individuals who provide significant achievement and initiative, to include the efforts of the more than 4,800 volunteers who carry out ESGR's mission across the Nation on a daily basis.

Gordon Arata attorney Maj. David Ross, USMC, nominated the Firm after serving a tour of duty in Afghanistan. Maj. Ross returned from duty in late September of 2011 and to Gordon Arata later that year where he has been back to work with his legal practice.

In addition, the Firm has signed the Statement of Support for the National Guard and Reserve, which pledges the following: We fully recognize, honor and enforce the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-Employment Rights Act (USERRA). Our managers and supervisors will have the tools they need to effectively manage those employees who serve in the Guard and Reserve. We will continually recognize and support our country's service members and their families in peace, in crises and in war.

About the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR)

As the 1.3 million members of the National Guard and Reserve continue to perform an increasing number of unique missions with America's borders and beyond, ESGR will continue to be the resource for the employers of citizen warriors. ESGR recognizes outstanding support, increases awareness of the law, and resolves conflict through mediation. More information about ESGR Employer Outreach Programs and volunteer opportunities is available at www.esgr.mil, or by calling 318.435.2998.

About Gordon Arata

Gordon Arata McCollam Duplantis & Eagan, LLC has over 50 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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Pictured from Left to Right: Ewell "Tim" E. Eagan, Jr., David Ross, Thomas G. Fierke, and Larry L. Jones [CDR US Coast Guard (retired), Southeast Louisiana Area Chair & Ombudsman, Employer Outreach Director, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR)]