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Gale Elected to President of Alabama Bar for Bar Year 2006-2007

Birmingham, Ala. – Fournier J. “Boots” Gale III, a founding partner and the Managing Partner of the law firm of Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C. was elected President of the Alabama State Bar for the bar year 2006-2007 on July 15, 2006 at the annual bar meeting. As President, Gale will serve as head of the 15,000+ members of the state bar organization. “This honor is a real tribute to Boots’ leadership and respect from lawyers statewide,” says N. Lee Cooper, fellow shareholder at Maynard Cooper. Pending issues that the Bar will be addressing this year include the merit selection of appellate judges and a task force concerning the mentoring of young solo attorneys.

Gale has been practicing law for over 35 years with a focus on litigation, environmental law, appellate and governmental affairs. After entering the private practice of law, Gale became active in various bar activities at the local and state level. He served on numerous committees and task forces of the State Bar including those dealing with prison reform and judicial selection of judges. Gale has served as State Law Day Chairman and currently is serving on the Task Force on Merit Selection of Appellate Judges. He was elected President of the Alabama State Bar Young Lawyers Section (1977-78). Gale was a member of The Judicial Conference of Alabama and the lawyer representative to the Permanent Study Commission for Alabama Courts (1977-83). He has also served as Chairman of the Environmental Law Section of the State Bar (1977).

In the Birmingham Bar Association, Gale has also been very active serving on numerous committees (Grievance, Law Day, Budget, and Executive Committee) and was President of the Birmingham Bar in 1989. He was elected as the bar representative on the Jefferson County Judicial Nominating Commission (1994-2000). On the national level, Gale has served on the ABA Standing Committee of Federal Judiciary (Eleventh Circuit) (1997-99) and the Standing Committee on Environmental Law (1982-88). He is a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation and served on the Board of Directors of the American Judicature Society (1980-85).

With respect to legal honors, Gale was selected to the International Academy of Trial Lawyers, is a Fellow of the Alabama Bar Foundation and has been listed in *Best Lawyers in America*® since the inception of that publication. He was also the recipient of the Sam Pipes Distinguished Alumnus Award of the University of Alabama Law School (2004).

Gale has been active in many religious, civic and community organizations including Leadership Birmingham (1986), Leadership Alabama (1991), President of the University of Alabama Law School Foundation (1987-89) and currently serves as its Treasurer. He was a member of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education for nine years and its Chairman in 1998-99.

The Birmingham-based law firm of Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C., with over 140 attorneys, offers a full array of legal services to a broad and diverse client base consisting of Fortune 500 companies as well as closely held companies, partnerships, professional associations, charities and individuals.

Maynard, Cooper & Gale is Alabama's only member of Lex Mundi, an international association of more than 140 widely recognized independent law firms, which by membership gives the firm access to the very best in local legal expertise throughout the world. The firm is also Alabama's only member of the Southern Law Network, a regional network of independent law firms. For more information, visit www.maynardcooper.com.

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