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**Former Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Drayton Nabers, Jr.  
Joins Maynard, Cooper & Gale**

**Birmingham, Ala.** – Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C. announced today that that former Alabama Supreme Court Chief Justice Drayton Nabers, Jr. will join the firm on April 1, 2007 as a shareholder. “We are delighted that Drayton – a man of impeccable character and accomplishment – will be joining the firm,” said Mark Drew, the Firm’s Managing Shareholder. His practice at Maynard Cooper will focus on the areas of mediation and arbitration.

In a distinguished career spanning five decades, Nabers has served as Chief Justice, an accomplished businessman and a successful attorney. Nabers’ arrival at Maynard Cooper also marks his return to the private practice of law after 28 years. Said Nabers, “I am very excited about the opportunity to join Maynard Cooper and to work with many friends who were my trusted colleagues years ago.” Interestingly, Nabers was responsible for hiring many of Maynard Cooper’s founding shareholders while practicing at another Birmingham law firm decades ago. “After almost 30 years, it is a great pleasure to have the opportunity to practice law alongside Drayton again,” stated Fournier J. “Boots” Gale, III, Chairman of the Executive Committee and current Alabama State Bar President.

A Birmingham native, Nabers is a graduate of both Princeton University and Yale School of Law. Following his graduation from Yale, Nabers served as a law clerk to Justice Hugo Black on the U.S. Supreme Court. Nabers then practiced law at another Birmingham firm for 12 years before joining Protective Life Corporation in 1979, where he served first as General Counsel and later as President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board until his retirement in 2002. Nabers was subsequently appointed Finance Director for the State of Alabama by Governor Bob Riley. He served in this capacity until his appointment to the Supreme Court in 2004.

Nabers is a member of the Alabama Academy of Honor and has served as Chairman of Leadership Birmingham, United Way of Central Alabama and Cornerstone Schools of Alabama. He is a member of the Alabama Bar Association. Before serving on the Supreme Court, Nabers served on the Board of Directors for Energen Corporation, Alabama National Bancorporation and ProAssurance Corporation. Nabers is currently an Adjunct Instructor at Samford University’s Beeson Divinity School, where he teaches on Christian Ethics. He is the author of *The Case for Character: Looking at Character from a Biblical Perspective*.

The Birmingham-based law firm of Maynard, Cooper & Gale, P.C. consists of more than 150 attorneys and 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. The firm 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 high quality 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](http://www.maynardcooper.com).

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