

### Raising the Bar

**TAGLaw 2005** 

**Annual Report** 



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### A Letter to Members



2005 was a notable year for TAGLaw. We added seven new members (ending the year at 137), raised the bar for quality by adopting the recommendations of the Quality Committee, donated more than \$90,000 to victims of Hurricane Katrina, made a prominent appearance at the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC) annual meeting, held three international conferences and approximately 10 regional meetings and developed a new and advanced web site.

TAGLaw today has 5,500 attorneys in 137 member firms operating from 280 offices in 77 countries. 48 firms are in Europe, 47 in the USA and Canada, 21 in Latin America, 14 in Asia Pacific and eight in Africa and the Middle East. This places TAGLaw as the third largest legal network worldwide when measured by the number of countries we are in. Our goal is to add another 10 firms by the middle of 2008.

More than 2,000 in-house counsel attended the ACC annual meeting in Washington DC where TAGLaw was a Gold Sponsor with a prominent double booth. ACC members were welcomed to the TAGLaw booth by nearly 20 attorneys from 14 TAGLaw member firms who traveled from Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, England, France and throughout the USA to participate in this major event. This was the second year we participated in the ACC conference and the reaction of attending TAGLaw members was that this is the most effective way of promoting the TAGLaw brand and gaining recognition by corporations large and small.

Finally, a word about the generosity of TAGLaw members. Hurricane Katrina wreaked havoc in several southern US states including Louisiana where many of the staff of TAGLaw member Milling Benson were left homeless. TAGLaw members contributed more than \$90,000 to help not only Milling Benson staff but also, through Heifer International, some of the poorer farmers and fishermen in the coastal region.

At the end of this report I will discuss our goals for 2006.

The success of TAGLaw is a tribute to our members and to the staff of The Appleton Group who strive each year to make TAGLaw an even better network. My thanks to all of you.

**Peter Appleton Jones** *Founder and President* 

### TAGLaw Status

#### **Continued Growth**

With network representation in most of the leading commercial centers of the world, the TAGLaw staff is now zeroing in on identifying the few remaining gaps in coverage and filling them. Consequently TAGLaw continued to grow in 2005, though at a considerably more moderate pace than in 2004. Net growth totaled five firms with 16 offices and 244 attorneys. Asia/Pacific, Latin America and Europe each gained one firm, and North America two, while the Middle-East/Africa region remained constant.

It is particularly noteworthy that TAGLaw has regained representation in South Korea after an absence of two years. This strengthens significantly our Asia/Pacific presence.

Specialty Group offerings were enhanced by the addition of the Life Sciences Specialty Group.

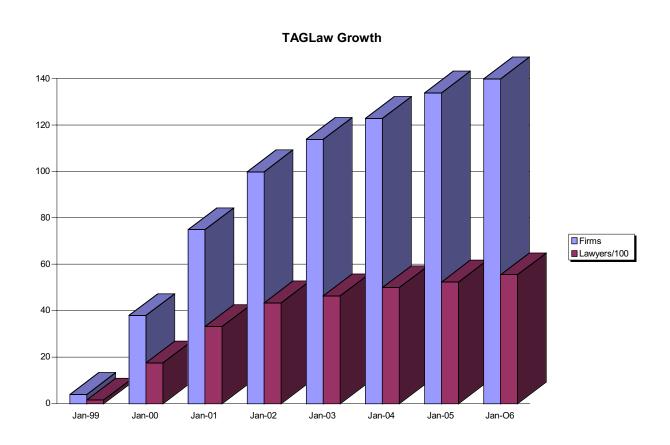
TAGLaw's sister network, TIAG, experienced better than 10% net growth, bringing the total membership to 63 firms with 90 offices in 35 countries.

#### **TAGLaw**

Current Totals			
Countries	77		
Total Firms	137		
Total Offices	285		

Region	Lawyers	Firms		
Asia Pacific	376	14		
Europe	1354	48		
Latin America	457	20		
Middle East - Africa	129	8		
North America	3205	47		
Totals	5521	137		

### TAGLaw Status Continued



TAGLaw	Jan-99	Jan-00	Jan-01	Jan-02	Jan-03	Jan-04	Jan-05	Jan-06
Firm s	4	38	75	100	114	123	132	137
Lawyers	160	1661	2846	4108	4048	4441	5134	5485

#### **New Members**

## AFRICA & THE MIDDLE EAST

Cyprus
Iraq
Israel
Kenya
Kuwait
Nigeria
Serbia
Turkey
United Arab
Emirates

#### **EUROPE**

Austria Belgium Bulgaria Channel Islands Czech Republic Denmark **England** Estonia **Finland** France Germany Greece Hungary Ireland Isle of Man Italy Latvia Lithuania Luxembourg Malta Monaco Netherlands Northern Ireland Norway Poland **Portugal** Romania Russia Scotland Slovak Republic Spain Sweden Switzerland

### **EUROPE**

#### **BELGIUM: Lawfort**

Perched square in the heart of Belgium in northern Europe, Brussels has delivered a first-rate law firm to TAGLaw.

Lawfort was founded in November 1997 in Brussels, with extensions to four other offices, three in Belgium (Antwerp, Ghent, Liège) and one in the Czech Republic. Lawfort's expansion allowed the firm to become one of Belgium's leading law firms with current figures amounting to 120 professionals and 45 support staff.

Lawfort's legal services cover all areas of business law for multinational and medium-sized companies. Its lawyers are ready to work with clients strategically and assist in the practical implementation of their advice. Lawfort's preparation for international clients is evident in their diverse lawyers; they are fluent in English, Dutch, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Czech and Turkish.

#### GERMANY: GGV Grützmacher / Gravert / Viegener

In the middle of the 18th century, international banking was born in Frankfurt-On-The-Main in Germany when Mayer Amschel Bauer changed his name and founded the House of Rothschild. Now, in the opening decade of the 21st century, GGV Grützmacher / Gravert / Viegener has become a boundary-spanning member of TAGLaw as well as The International Accounting Group (TIAG).

GGV Grützmacher / Gravert / Viegener was founded in 1974 by Dr. Rolf Grützmacher. The firm aims its expertise in high level legal consulting with a high degree of partner involvement. GGV is a firm of lawyers, auditors, tax consultants and notaries in the legal form of a German partnership.

GGV serves a wide-range of clients, from German subsidiaries of multinational companies to start-ups as well as long-established German engineering companies. With 17 partners and 85 employees, they operate from three offices in Frankfurt am Main (main office), Hamburg and Paris, France.

#### **New Members**

#### **ASIA PACIFIC**

Australia
China
Hong Kong
India
Indonesia
Japan
Korea
Malaysia
Pakistan
Phillipines
Singapore
Taiwan
Thailand

#### LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

Argentina Bahamas Bolivia Brazil British Virgin Islands Chile Colombia Costa Rica Dominican Republic Ecuador Guatemala Honduras Mexico Nicaragua Panama Peru Puerto Rico Uruguay

Venezuela

### ASIA PACIFIC

#### KOREA: Hankyul Law Firm

Fifty-five years ago United Nations forces had just driven the North Korean army out of Seoul. Korea was scarred by the ravages of war. Thus began the struggle to emerge from a "third world" poverty-stricken existence to become an economic success story in the closing decade of the 20th century. With an area approximately equal to that of the American state of Indiana, and a population now approaching 50 million, the Republic of Korea has become a world player in the realms of industry.

Hankyul, HK for short, is a partnership of some of the most successful Korean professionals in law, finance, and consulting with offices in Seoul and Beijing. Affiliated with Hankyul is You Me, the largest patent firm in Korea, and who, together with Hankyul, provide integrated solutions for a full range of legal needs.

Hankyul maintains its role as a top litigation practice in civil, criminal, family and real estate matters. Hankyul has now become one of Korea's leading firms in corporate finance, international business transactions, internet law, intellectual property, and entertainment law.

### THE AMERICAS

#### **QUEBEC: Bélanger Sauvé**

During the early 16th century, the voyagers of Quebec were the first of many immigrants to Canada. These resilient pioneers came from France to live, hunt, and tame the forests and streams of a new world. These French speaking immigrants were seeking to create a "New France." In 1977, Quebec's language law made French the province's official language, recognizing Quebec as a "distinct society" in Canada.

This vitality is still prevalent in our new Québecois firm. Bélanger Sauvé is welcomed as our new Canadian TAGLaw member. La Belle Province houses four Bélanger offices in Montreal (main office), Longueuil, Trois-Rivières, and Joliette.

Bélanger lawyers specialize in business law, civil and commercial litigation and administrative law. Bélanger Sauvé conducts specialized professional training sessions when major legislative changes are introduced to maintain their prominent position in Montreal and throughout the province.

#### WYOMING, USA: Hirst & Applegate, PC

Operating in Wyoming's capital city, Hirst and Applegate has built a strong reputation for effective trial work and successful representation of a broad range of clients in Wyoming. Hirst & Applegate, its attorneys, paralegals, and staff have earned the trust and confidence of their clients over the years by remaining committed to the core values of quality work and striving for client satisfaction.

Today, the firm provides experienced legal service in its principal areas of practice: litigation, estate planning & estate administration and business & real estate law. Hirst & Applegate is experienced in working with regional, corporate and out-of-state counsel and also local and out-of-state clients.

#### **New Members**

#### **NORTH AMERICA**

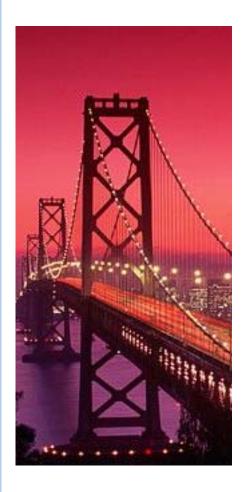
#### Bermuda

#### Canada

British Columbia Nova Scotia Ontario Quebec

#### **USA**

Alabama Alaska Arizona California Colorado Connecticut Delaware **District** of Columbia Florida Georgia Hawaii Idaho Illinois Indiana Iowa Kansas Kentucky Louisiana Maine Maryland Massachusetts Michigan Minnesota Missouri Nebraska Nevada New jersey **New York** North Carolina Ohio Oklahoma Oregon Pennsylvania South Carolina Tennessee Texas Utah Virginia Washington Wisconsin Wyoming



### THE AMERICAS

### COLORADO, USA: Lindquist & Vennum (Denver)

Lindquist and Vennum PLLP, a Minneapolis-based firm that ranks in the National Law Journal 250, has been TAGLaw's member for Minnesota for several years. In the summer of 2005 the firm's partners made a decision to apply for a second membership for its growing Denver operation, giving TAGLaw an enhanced presence in the rugged communities of America's Rocky Mountain West.

This firm's expertise is found within insolvency advice and bankruptcy, white collar criminal defense, environmental law, business transactions, and civil litigation.

Lindquist & Vennum (Denver) has 15 resident partners and 5 resident associates. The office expects to add between 5 and 10 more lawyers in the next few years to bring it to its optimal strength for the area.

#### NEBRASKA, USA: Cline, Williams, Wright, Johnson & Oldfather, LLP

Named after a Presidential icon, the city of Lincoln is home to our new TAGLaw member, Cline, Williams, Wright, Johnson & Oldfather LLP, a prestigious and highly qualified firm.

In a city rich with history, Cline Williams finds that professionalism and ethical manners combined with experience and today's technology deliver their clients prompt, cost-effective, quality representation.

The firm represents both businesses and individuals, and regularly represents leading commercial, financial, service, and industrial companies in Nebraska and the Midwest. Cline Williams' practice emphasizes all aspects of corporate law and litigation and encompasses substantially all types of legal matters.

### Network in Action

#### Member Successes

### **An International Pre-Marital Agreement**

This past summer, TAGLaw's New Jersey firm, Bressler, Amery & Ross, P.C., was asked by wealthy clients to draft a pre-marital agreement for their daughter. Because the groom was a citizen of France and the couple might reside there as well as New York or New Jersey, the agreement needed to comport with the law of those states, the Hague Convention, French law, and any applicable European Union provisions. Complicating the task, the clients instructed that the agreement be written in the plainest language possible, be short and balanced, and not be a possible cause of tension between the couple or their families.

For assistance with the French and European aspects of the agreement, Bressler lawyers George R. Hirsch and Jordan S. Weitberg drew upon their colleagues Philip Jenkinson and Didier Lebon at Triplet & Associes.

The result was so successful that the bride pulled Mr. Hirsch aside at the wedding and said: "Thank you. This wedding would not have been possible without you and your TAGLaw friends in France."

Bressler, Amery & Ross, P.C. New Jersey, USA

### Synergy in Alabama & Missouri

Through a joint marketing effort in 2004, a team of lawyers from TAGLaw firms Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, L.L.C. (Alabama) and Spencer Fane Britt & Browne LLP (Missouri) were retained to represent the official Retirees Committee of Solutia in a large Chapter 11 Bankruptcy proceeding pending in the Bankruptcy Court in New York City. The case became very active in 2005, resulting in numerous court hearings, negotiating sessions, client meetings, and an appeal from the Bankruptcy Court to the District Court in New York. During the last half of 2005, serious settlement negotiations began which are ongoing in 2006. Throughout the engagement, Haskell Slaughter was able to work effectively with the attorneys in Spencer Fane's offices in Kansas City and St. Louis. John Jennings and Frank Young, from Haskell Slaughter, have been able to resolve any potential problems that have arisen during the course of the engagement [due to their ties in TAGLaw]. Communications have been facilitated through weekly conference calls. The workflow and communications between their two firms have been seamless and most effective. They are cautiously optimistic that a favorable and worthwhile settlement can be achieved for their clients in the first half of 2006.

Haskell Slaughter Young & Rediker, L.L.C. Birmingham, Alabama, USA

#### Network in Action

### Member Successes

#### **Client Development using TAGLaw**

Hamburg is a place of international business. In August 2005, Weiss Walter Fischer-Zernin in Hamburg, was asked by one of its clients, a German stock company, if they could assist in the implementation of a world wide network of companies in the field of perishable logistics. Due to their friends in TAGLaw they were not hesitant to confirm their assistance. With the support of TAGLaw members in various jurisdictions they have been acquiring a considerable number of subsidiaries in different countries. The client is completely satisfied with both the quality of the work and the fees involved.

#### Weiss Walter Fischer-Zernin

Germany

### **Calling upon Olympic Expertise**

The power of TAGLaw was demonstrated when Blaney McMurtry LLP was approached by a major client to do their licensing work for numerous products related to the Vancouver 2010 Winter Games and the Canadian Olympic rights generally from now through 2010.

Harper Grey in Vancouver had organized an "Olympics Seminar" bringing together firms from the West Coast Group as well as Blaney McMurtry LLP in Toronto. At the seminar, they learned of the significant work that Mike Krieger of Kirton & McConkie had done for the Salt Lake City Olympics. When their client asked them, along with two other firms it uses, to make a proposal, Blaney McMurtry immediately called Mike. The expertise and background which he was able to share with them made quick work of the competition. The chosen team consists of Michael Penman (sports law) and Joan Garson (licensing) of Blaney McMurtry, together with Mike Krieger from Kirton & McConkie.

Harper Grey was wise enough and good enough to arrange the seminar and invite Blaney McMurtry. Mike Krieger was kind enough to assist them in the process and then to join their team. They were bright enough to call upon the resources and expertise of their TAGLaw colleagues to help them land a very nice piece of work.

#### Blaney McMurtry LLP

Toronto, Canada

#### **Corfu Connections**

TAGLaw can often prove useful, even when communication between members may not involve multi-million dollar corporate issues. UK-based Blake Lapthorn Linnell required a law firm based in Corfu to handle a matrimonial issue. Corfu is an island of Greece, located in the Ionian sea. As there are no TAGLaw member firms in Corfu, they contacted the TAGLaw representative in Athens who recommended a Corfu firm. The recommended firm handled the matter extremely well. This case demonstrates the breadth and power of network membership – not just the obvious network of TAGLaw members, but the "extended network" of those members and the valued relationships members maintain outside of TAGLaw.

#### Blake Lapthorn Linnell

England

### 2005 Conference Report

Reflecting upon TAGLaw's 2006 conferences brings mixed emotions. The content and experiences at both meetings (New Orleans in May and Prague in November) were highly valuable, and members reaped substantial benefits from attending. However, many TAGLaw members watched in disbelief as just three months after gathering in New Orleans the city they had visited was devastated by flooding from Hurricane Katrina.

In the wake of the disaster, it was rewarding to see the generosity of members who contributed money to The Appleton Group's relief fund or offered office space and other forms of support to our Louisiana firm, Milling Benson Woodward. TAGLaw's effort in this regard is covered in greater detail earlier in the Annual Report, so we now reflect on the positives from the conference.

#### **New Orleans**



Member expertise was brought front and center for the agenda in New Orleans. The first day was filled with panel presentations from TAGLaw members on topics ranging from IP issues in business deals to Creditors Rights and Debtor Exemptions and to Export Controls & Economic Sanctions. In addition to the member-led panels, there was special emphasis placed on meeting members in TAGLaw's first-ever "Networking Roundtables" session. The goal of the round-tables was for members to make as many new contacts as possible in a short amount of time – not dissimilar to "speed dating". While the session had its

skeptics when it was introduced, by the end some were hailing it as the best idea yet at a TAGLaw conference.

The following day got off to an insightful start as one of America's most renowned economists, Gene Stanaland, gave both a humorous and perceptive presentation about the economic outlook for major regions of the world for the coming year. Armed with that information, members then completed their stay in New Orleans by attending traditional Specialty Groups and also breakout sessions geared toward Mediation and Document Management.

#### **Prague**



Several attendees commented that Prague was "the best TAGLaw conference yet". We can only guess at what contributed to this opinion. Perhaps it was the in-depth, informative presentation on the legal field from Joe Altonji of Hildebrandt. Maybe it was the superb panel presentations of TAGLaw members or even that the Specialty Groups ran better sessions than ever before. Were the highly controversial and intriguing sessions on Value Pricing from Ron Baker the deciding factor? All these elements certainly played a part.

Despite the rich content of each of the conference sessions, we venture to assume that what put Prague over the top was the thrilling operatic performances at the Gala Dinner in the Palais Zofin from our very own Magnus Hybbinette of Sweden. Earning multiple standing ovations, this will likely be the most memorable TAGLaw moment of 2005!

#### **Future Conferences**

### Vancouver May 15-17, 2006



Nestled in British Columbia's southwest corner, Vancouver will be the colorful location for the Spring 2006 TAGLaw Conference. This is a highly resourceful and active city with a port trading more than \$43 billion in goods annually, home to headquarters of forest products and mining companies, and most excitingly, Host City to the 2010 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games. Surrounded by bodies of water on three sides and overlooked by the Coast Range mountains that rise out of Fraser Valley, attendees are sure to immerse themselves in not only the pristine ambiance, but also in the invaluable professional opportunity.

#### **Dublin** October 16-18, 2006



"O, love is the soul of a true Irishman..." forever claimed by John Locke, Dublin truly holds these sentiments. With overwhelming TAGLaw member support, the city of Dublin will host the Fall 2006 Conference. Dublin's commercial, administrative, and trading hubs pump the blood of Ireland as well as its main centers for education and culture. With the Irish Sea to the east and Wicklow Mountains to the south, the Irish carry a sense of pride for their sprawling and awe-inspiring Dublin landscape. Amongst a vibrant nightlife, rich history, competitive sports and stunning surroundings, a city could not be more diverse or more appropriate to further your firm's network and knowledge.

### **Beijing** May 21 - 24, 2007 (tentative)



Known as one of the Four Great Ancient Capitals, Beijing is also recognized as the political, educational, and cultural hub of China. Thus allowing it to be the next Host City for the 2008 Summer Olympic Games and your next destination for the 2007 TAGLaw Spring Conference. Strolling down the Hutongs, distinguishing the Siheyuans from the Skyscrapers and dining on Mandarin cuisine, attendees will realize Beijing is unlike any other city. Participants will attend sessions focusing exclusively on China and all things related to doing business in the country. This hands-on experience will lead you on multiple tours

throughout the city and perhaps locations of industry – an increasingly fascinating area of development for the rest of the world – and appointing you back home as the official China expert in your firm. Come embark on this journey to discover your client's shifting needs in China. This truly unique experience is not to be missed, start preparing your firm now!

### Regional Meetings

During 2005, regional meetings continued to play a prominent role throughout the network. Each region, despite their distinctive traits, used these meetings as an opportunity to expand TAGLaw exposure within their firms and to explore business possibilities with other member firms in the region.

This was a year of firsts in some Regions. A group of TAGLaw firms, mostly in the Northeastern United States, met together for the first time as the Atlantic Region. The inaugural meeting was a success and the region's firms will be meeting again in February 2006. Another first was in Europe, where TAGLaw's new member firm in Belgium, Lawfort, not only attended its first regional meeting but joined the network and hosted a meeting only months after becoming a member.

Here's a look at where Regional Meetings were held this year, and the local firm in that jurisdiction:

Jan. 21-22 – Southeast / Midwest; San Antonio, Texas: Cox Smith Matthews Incorporated

Feb. 4-5 - European; Brussels: Lawfort

June 17-18 - TAGLaw & TIAG European Tax Conference; Brussels

July 29-30 - Atlantic; Wilmington, Delaware: Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP

**Sept. 23-24 – Great Lakes and Midwest**; Chicago, Illinois: Barack Ferrazzano Kirschbaum Perlman & Nagelberg LLP

Sept 30-Oct. 1 - Western; Phoenix, Arizona: Osborn Maledon, P.A.

### **Quality Committee**

As TAGLaw was entering its sixth year, Peter Appleton Jones called for recommendations to maintain quality within TAGLaw. Soon after, a quality committee was formed and they immediately commissioned an extensive survey of TAGLaw member's experience in working with other members. The survey found that, while the TAGLaw network was in very good shape and members' work was of a high quality, there were two areas where some improvement was possible, namely responsiveness and member involvement. The Quality Committee approved three responsiveness recommendations and two involvement recommendations, which were subsequently approved by the Advisory Board and distributed to the TAGLaw Member Firms in New Orleans in May, 2005

Gratitude is extended to these six Quality Committee members for their for their dedication to this important task. Also, a special thanks from TAGLaw to George Hirsch for his leadership role in steering the committee and to Joan Garson for her support in bringing the committee's work to a sound conclusion.

Members of the Quality Committee were Anders Christner (Advokatfirman Lindahl in Sweden), Gustav Duden (Rowedder Zimmerman Hass in Mannheim, Germany), Joan Garson (Blaney McMurtry, LLP in Ontario, Canada), George R. Hirsch (Bressler, Amery & Ross in New Jersey, USA), Alexander Lourie (Barack Ferrazzano Kirschbaum Perlman & Nagelberg, LLP in Illinois, USA), and Simon Ward (Piper Alderman in Sydney, Australia).

## Association of Coporate Counsel Meeting Washington D.C.

For the second year in a row, TAGLaw was a sponsor for the annual meeting of the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC). This meeting brings together more in-house counsel at one time than perhaps any other event in the industry. TAGLaw chose to return to this conference and secure the highest level of sponsorship possible for 2005 because of the positive comments made by our attending members in 2004. This year approximately 15 TAGLaw members sent attorneys to represent TAGLaw and discover new opportunities for their own firms as well.

We were the most prominent legal network at the conference, and this was due in large part to our Gold Sponsorship status and because we had opted for twice the booth space of a regular sponsor.

Our consistent sponsorship of the ACC conference is helping us brand TAGLaw and make inroads with members of the ACC. A number of visitors to our TAGLaw booth recognized who we were and what we did that could help them. After some conversations with in-house counsel, we were successful in connecting the dots between the TAGLaw network as a whole and the firm nearest to them. We look forward to raising awareness about the network again in 2006 when we will be sponsors at their meeting in San Diego.

### Advisory Board Changes for 2006

The TAGLaw meeting in Prague was an occasion to recognize the valuable contribution made by two of our members who retired from the TAGLaw board at the end of 2005. John Velenturf, from Rassers Advocaten En Notarissen in the Netherlands, was one of TAGLaw's first board members and has made a significant contribution to the development and success of TAGLaw. Gustavo Reyna, from D'Empaire Reyna Bermudez & Abogados in Venezuela has been constant in his support and advice despite the difficulties of managing his firm in the turbulent times that Venezuelans have experienced. We thank both John and Gustavo for their service to TAGLaw.

Joining the TAGLaw board in January 2006 we welcome Barbara Lano Rummel from Lindquist & Vennum in Minneapolis, Minnesota and Daniel Polsenberg from Beckley Singleton in Las Vegas, Nevada. We look forward to their participation in advancing the TAGLaw cause during the next four years.





#### Goals

#### The Year Ahead

#### One year ago TAGLaw set three goals for 2005:

- 1. Raise Quality by adopting the recommendations of the TAGLaw Quality Committee this was completed and will be monitored in 2006
- 2. Raise TAGLaw's profile in large- and medium-sized corporations our Gold-Sponsor support of the Association of Corporate Counsel Annual Meeting with 2,000 in-house counsel went a long way to achieving this goal, and the goal will be set again for 2006.
- 3. Grow TAGLaw by 10 firms we added seven firms and lost two, one being acquired by a subsequent TAGLaw member, for a net gain of five.

#### This year we are also setting three goals:

- 1. To further promote the TAGLaw brand among large- and medium-sized corporations through closer involvement with the ACC nationally and regionally.
- 2. To add six new firms.
- 3. To increase member's involvement in TAGLaw conferences and their awareness and utilization of the website and the numerous features of the Specialty Group sections.

#### We look forward to your help in achieving these goals

#### The Last Word

My thanks to all members who have worked to make TAGLaw such a great network, with special appreciation to TAGLaw Advisory Board Members, Specialty Group Co-chairs and TAGLaw staff. Let's continue to work together to build the world's most effective network.

**Peter Appleton Jones** 



### 2005 TAGLaw Advisory Board

**Berne Broadbent** Kirton & McConkie Salt Lake City, UT, USA





Joan Garson Blaney McMurtry LLP Toronto, Ontario, Canada

**Enrique A. Gonzalez Calvillo** Gonzalez Calvillo S.C. Mexico City, Mexico





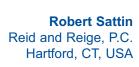
Jeffrey G. Heuer Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss, P.C. Detroit, MI, USA







**Gustavo Reyna** d'Empaire Reyna Bermudez Abogados Caracas, Venezuela







John Velenturf Rassers Advocaten En Notarissen Breda, Netherlands





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