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NEWS RELEASE
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Guess & Rudd Issues Challenge to Law Firms in Alaska

Fundraising Challenge Issued to Benefit Alaska Legal Services Corporation

The Anchorage and Fairbanks law firm of Guess & Rudd P.C. has issued a fundraising challenge to benefit Alaska Legal Services Corporation. Guess & Rudd P.C. has pledged to donate \$10,000 to ALSC's Robert Hickerson Partners in Justice campaign if eight other Alaska law firms or members of the legal community will each make a matching \$10,000 donation.

Guess & Rudd Managing Shareholder Joan Rohlf explained, "Our firm made this decision because we are acutely aware of the obstacles confronting low-income Alaskans faced with civil legal problems where there is no right to appointed counsel, and, as members of the legal profession, we feel a special responsibility to promote equal access to that civil justice system within which we work."

ALSC's annual fundraising campaign is dedicated to the late Robert Hickerson, whose twenty-year career with Alaska Legal Services was dedicated to the goal of ensuring equal access to the civil justice system for all Alaskans. Executive Director Andy Harrington stated, "The Guess & Rudd challenge and the opportunity to raise a total of \$90,000 for ALSC comes at a crucial time, as the recent unexpected loss of our program's Rural Domestic Violence funding has resulted in downsizing, staffing cutbacks, and a looming budget shortfall for calendar year 2006. ALSC has had more than its share of challenges lately, but this is one challenge we look forward to meeting."

The deadline for meeting the challenge is December 31, 2005, with payment due by June 30, 2006. Law firms or individual donors who are interested in helping to meet this challenge should contact ALSC Executive Director Andy Harrington in Fairbanks at 907-452-5181 or Director of Volunteer Services and Community Support Erick Cordero in Anchorage at 907-222-4521.

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