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**Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings Expands Banking and Financial Services Practice  
with the Addition of Four Attorneys in Charlotte**

*New Laterals Support Firm's Strategic Growth Plans and Diversity Initiatives*

**CHARLOTTE, NC (April 10, 2012)** – Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings LLP has expanded its Banking and Financial Services Practice Group with the addition of four attorneys to the firm's Charlotte office. They are partners **Patricia ("Tricia") Gordon** and **Jolie Amie Tenholder**; associate **Cybil J. Abrao**; and staff attorney **Marian Lucius Bowers**. The four attorneys were previously with the Charlotte office of Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, LLP.

The new laterals are the latest in a string of new hires for Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings, which has aggressive strategic growth plans for both the firm and the Charlotte office.

"Growing our Banking and Financial Services practice and the Charlotte office are key priorities for the firm," said Firm Chairman Beau Grenier. "We are pleased to welcome such a talented group of attorneys to Bradley Arant Boulton Cummings. Each will add significantly to what we offer clients."

The firm's Banking and Financial Services Practice Group offers the full spectrum of legal services to banks, bank holding companies, and other non-bank financial institutions of all sizes. The firm is known for its litigation, lending, workout and corporate work on behalf of financial services clients. The Charlotte office, in particular, has a strong financial services practice and its attorneys represent many of the top banks, financial institutions and mortgage lenders in the United States.

"Our new colleagues are all highly regarded in the financial services community and will be a tremendous asset to us, both in Charlotte and firmwide," said Dave Drescher, partner and chair of the

Banking and Financial Services Practice Group. “They have a depth of experience working with leading financial services clients that will only enhance our client work.”

Bradley Arant Boult Cummings boasts some of the most experienced banking and financial services attorneys in the country. Most have spent their entire careers serving clients in this niche sector, which has undergone significant legal and regulatory change in recent years.

“Knowing the depth of talent in the financial services practice at Bradley Arant Boult Cummings, the firm was a natural fit for where we wanted to take our practices,” said Tricia Gordon, the lead lateral partner joining the firm. “We were also drawn to the kind of work handled by the firm’s attorneys, and its strong client base. We’re looking forward to being part of this formidable team.”

Additional information on the attorneys joining the firm:

**Patricia (“Tricia”) Gordon, Partner:** Ms. Gordon advises national and regional financial institutions on matters involving financial transactions, including loan origination and syndication, derivatives, debt restructuring, defaulted loan workouts, foreclosures, portfolio loan sales and distressed debt trading. She has significant experience advising clients on debt restructuring and workouts involving real estate and commercial loans. Ms. Gordon counsels administrative agents on working with syndicate members in performing and nonperforming syndicated loans. She holds a J.D., with distinction, from Emory University and a B.S. (*magna cum laude*) from Georgia State University.

**Jolie Amie Tenholder, Partner:** Ms. Tenholder has spent over a decade handling real estate and commercial loans transactions and workouts for financial institutions. She regularly advises clients on matters ranging from loan origination to the workout of troubled debt, including both syndicated and single lender transactions and both secured and unsecured transactions. Ms. Tenholder also serves as counsel for bank loan participations and distressed debt trading and has significant experience in UCC security matters. She holds a J.D. from Wake Forest University School of Law and a B.S., Accounting; B.A., Business Administration – Finance from Truman State University.

**Cybil J. Abrao, Associate:** Ms. Abrao represents national and regional financial institutions in transactions involving commercial loan origination and syndication, derivatives, debt restructuring, defaulted loan workouts, foreclosures, portfolio loan sales and distressed debt trading. She has also counseled global investment banks, underwriters and collateral managers in the issuance of a variety of structured finance and securitization vehicles, including CMBS, RMBS and CRE-CDO transactions. Ms. Abrao holds a J.D. from the University of North Carolina and a B.S. from Iowa State University

**Marian Lucius Bowers, Staff Attorney:** Ms. Bowers represents financial institutions in real estate loan origination and loan workout matters, including foreclosures. She has also represented financial institutions in distressed debt trading and leasing transactions. Ms. Bowers holds a J.D. from the University of South Carolina School of Law and a B.A. from Davidson College.

#### **About Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP**

Tracing its roots to 1871, Bradley Arant Boult Cummings LLP has more than 400 attorneys in seven offices and is one of the largest law firms in the Southeast. The firm maintains offices in Birmingham, Huntsville, and Montgomery, Alabama; Jackson, Mississippi; Charlotte, North Carolina; Nashville, Tennessee; and Washington, D.C.

The firm's lawyers serve clients locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally, and provide services across a wide range of industries, including accounting, automotive, banking and finance, biotechnology, life sciences, construction, education, emerging business, economic development, energy, entertainment, equipment leasing, forest products, government contracts, health care, life sciences, hospitality, insurance, manufacturing, materials and aggregate production, media and communications, mining, municipal and public finance, oil and gas, pharmaceuticals and medical devices, public utilities, real estate, retail, steel, technology, telecommunications, textiles, transportation, and venture capital.