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Laura J. Gerdes Joins Law Firm of Danna McKitrick, P.C.

WELL-KNOWN ATTORNEY JOINS FIRM'S EXPANDING LITIGATION PRACTICE

St. Louis, MO – January 9, 2006 – Laura J. Gerdes joins local law firm Danna McKitrick, P.C. as their newest litigation associate. Gerdes is an experienced attorney focusing on tort, employment, insurance, municipal and healthcare law. She also consults and trains on employment law policies and processes, especially related to the privacy and security requirements under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA).

Gerdes speaks on HIPAA and its effect on municipalities, fire protection districts, emergency medical services, physicians and employers. For over two years, she served as an independent contract lawyer for the City of St. Louis on HIPAA compliance issues. She previously served as prosecutor for Velda City, Bella Villa, and Normandy, and as assistant city attorney for various other municipalities throughout St. Louis County.

“We are very pleased to welcome Laura to our practice,” says Dan Tobben, a key principal in the firm’s litigation department. “Both Dale Weppner and I have worked with Laura in the past and we know her skills to be sharp and her judgment excellent. It is great to have another strong, analytical thinker on our team.”

Gerdes earned her J.D. from Washington University School of Law and her B.A., *cum laude*, in European Studies with a focus on Russia from Vanderbilt University.

Located in Clayton, Missouri, Danna McKitrick, P.C. is a 24 attorney firm delivering outstanding legal representation to businesses, insurers, and individuals in the Midwestern region. The firm has long-standing local roots serving many local businesses as well as regional representation for insurance companies and major corporations. The firm is on the Web at www.dannamckitrick.com.

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