NEWS RELEASE

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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL HOSTS ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING IN COEUR D’ALENE, IDAHO

Attorneys General discuss consumer protection, criminal law, homeland security, cybercrime, preemption, recent decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court, federal legislation and other critical legal areas of interest

The National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) will host its annual summer meeting June 27-30 in Coeur d’Alene, Idaho. More than 300 participants are expected to attend, including more than 30 Attorneys General and their key staff, as well as representatives from the ranks of trade associations, law firms, federal and state government officials and staff from other interested agencies and associations.

Attorneys General will discuss a number of critical legal issues, including perspectives on social networking and what can be done to protect children, innovations in law enforcement, spyware and approaches to prosecution, public corruption and homeland security. Idaho Supreme Court Justice Jim Jones and U.S. Court of Appeals Judge Al Lance will also provide views from the bench.

A number of other discussions will include financial practices, antitrust and criminal law.

In addition to the substantive legal discussions, the Association will elect its new slate of officers for 2006-2007. The current NAAG President, Indiana Attorney General Steve Carter, will pass the gavel to President-Elect and Georgia Attorney General Thurbert Baker, the Association’s first African-American President to lead the nearly century-old organization.
“It has been an honor serving as NAAG’s president and I believe we have had an eventful and productive year,” Attorney General Carter said. “I’ve received tremendous support from my colleagues as we addressed important issues like public corruption and I’m looking forward to continued involvement under the leadership of Georgia Attorney General Thurbert Baker.”

During his tenure, Attorney General Carter worked to enhance the transparency of NAAG and its public accountability. In addition, as his presidential initiative, he held a national conference on public corruption and the role of Attorneys General in rooting it out to maintain the public trust, confidence and integrity of agencies and organizations.

The Association will also hold its annual awards ceremony to highlight the achievements of Attorneys General and their staff. The Kelley-Wyman Award, the Association’s highest honor, will be awarded to the Attorney General who has done the most to achieve the objectives of NAAG. A number of other awards will be given.

The National Association of Attorneys General (NAAG) was founded in 1907 to help Attorneys General fulfill the responsibilities of their offices and to assist in the delivery of high quality legal services to the states and territorial jurisdictions. NAAG’s mission is: "To facilitate interaction among Attorneys General as peers. To facilitate the enhanced performance of Attorneys General and their staffs." NAAG fosters an environment of "cooperative leadership," helping Attorneys General respond effectively - individually and collectively - to emerging state and federal issues.

The Association fosters interstate cooperation on legal and law enforcement issues, conducts policy research and analysis of issues, and facilitates communication between the states’ chief legal officers and all levels of government. The Association’s members are the Attorneys General of the 50 states and the chief legal officers of the District of Columbia, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico (Secretary of Justice) and the Northern Mariana Islands, and the territories of American Samoa, Guam, and the Virgin Islands. The U.S. Attorney General is an honorary member.