



PRESS RELEASE

**LINDABURY ELECTS NEW FIRM PRESIDENT**

*John Blasi to lead firm in next growth phase*

Westfield, New Jersey, November 24, 2004 – Lindabury, McCormick & Estabrook announced today the election of senior shareholder John R. Blasi as president of the firm. He succeeds Richard R. Width, who served as the firm's president for the last eleven years. Mr. Blasi practices business law and estate and trust planning and has been with the firm since 1980.

"I am honored to be chosen to lead the firm through a period of significant change in the legal market," said Mr. Blasi upon his election. "Our clients are growing both in size and in the scope of their business, and their need for sophisticated legal services is increasing. We must match this growth by continuing to provide all of the legal services they require. We intend to accomplish this by aggressively recruiting experienced attorneys in various areas of expertise. We will also enhance our non-professional staff and our technological capabilities."

As part of its strategic plan, Lindabury recently leased an additional 7,000 square feet of office space at 53 Cardinal Drive, Westfield, New Jersey. It now leases more than 33,000 square feet at that location. The additional space gives the firm the room to accommodate new attorneys. The firm has also expanded the capability of its office in New York City. Lindabury presently employs 46 attorneys and hopes to add 10-12 new lawyers within the next year.

"We think John is the right person to lead the firm in executing its strategic growth plan," said shareholder Robert Burney. "He understands that growth is not itself an end, but a means to improving our service to clients. The firm's expansion must be carefully



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implemented in order to preserve those aspects of our practice—including our trusted name and personalized, cost-effective service—that have made the firm successful."

Mr. Blasi, who was already a member of the firm's Executive Committee, has built his practice by providing business counsel and advice to middle market businesses and organizations and tax and estate advice to individuals. He is the former chairman of the Board of Trustees of Children's Specialized Hospital and continues as a member of that board. He is also a Trustee of the Robert Wood Johnson Healthcare Corporation.

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*Lindabury, McCormick & Estabrook is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a law firm. Lindabury is a general practice firm with 46 attorneys, based in Westfield, New Jersey. Retained by clients from New Jersey, New York and around the country, the firm serves businesses, organizations and individuals in more than two dozen legal practices, including alternative dispute resolution, automotive law, banking and finance, business counsel and transactions, business succession planning, construction, corporate law, education, elder law, employment law, energy & utility law, environmental law, fidelity and surety, health care, immigration and citizenship, insurance, intellectual property, labor, litigation, matrimonial and family law, medical malpractice, mergers & acquisitions, nonprofit organizations, personal injury, personal services, public safety, real estate and land use, securities, tax, and wills, trusts and estates.*

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