



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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FORMER PSC CHAIRPERSON AVE BIE JOINS QUARLES & BRADY LLP

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*Bie brings more than two decades of government and regulatory experience
to assist firm's clients nationwide*

MILWAUKEE – The law firm of Quarles & Brady LLP today announced that Ave Bie, former chairwoman of the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, has joined the firm as a partner. In her new position, Bie will be part of Quarles & Brady's public utilities and government relations practice groups. She will reside in Madison, and work on state and federal issues for clients at the firm's six offices nationwide.

“Ave Bie's wide range of government experience will be a tremendous asset to Quarles & Brady and our many clients, and we are delighted to welcome her to the firm,” said Patrick M. Ryan, the firm's managing partner. “Ave is a nationally known and respected leader in the field of public utilities. That, coupled with her extensive knowledge of the inner workings of government regulation and licensing, will allow us to provide even stronger government affairs and legal counsel to our clients both in Wisconsin and across the country.”

Bie has had a long and successful career in Wisconsin state government. She joined the Public Service Commission in 1998, at a time when there were serious questions regarding the adequacy of electric supply in Wisconsin. Under her leadership, Wisconsin developed a strategy for the state's power needs.

Prior to joining the PSC, Bie held a number of other government leadership roles. As deputy secretary of the Department of Corrections, she was instrumental in developing a program to better integrate inmates who will be released into the community to help ensure their success. She also served as deputy secretary and executive assistant to the secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Regulation and Licensing, as director of appointments for former Gov. Tommy G. Thompson and as director of the Assembly Republican Caucus of the Wisconsin State Legislature.

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Bie has had significant roles in utility and regulatory trade groups, and is nationally recognized for the expertise in the industry. She has served as president, vice president, treasurer and secretary of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference, an organization of the largest utility regulators in the United States. She has served as a member of the Telecommunications and Consumer Affairs committees of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, as a member of the National Governor's Association Critical Infrastructure Committee, and as a member of the Governor's Task Force on Terrorism Preparedness. She is the former chairperson of the State Employees Combined Campaign Fund and was the Governor's designee on the Wisconsin Women's Council from 1986 to 2003.

Bie also has a strong commitment to the community. She is president of the Board of Trustees for the Edgewood Campus School and serves on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee for the United Way of Dane County. Bie is a cum laude graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in Business Administration, and the University of Wisconsin Law School.

"Ave is a tremendous addition to Quarles & Brady," Ryan said. "She's a proven leader who has earned the respect of her industry nationally and her community locally. That's exactly the kind of person our clients want to represent them, and we will be an even stronger firm with her on board."

Quarles & Brady LLP is a full-service law firm with more than 400 attorneys practicing from offices in Milwaukee and Madison, Wis.; Chicago, Ill.; Phoenix and Tucson, Ariz.; and Naples, Fla. The firm offers an array of legal services to corporate and individual clients that range from small, entrepreneurial businesses to Fortune 100 companies. Quarles & Brady represents clients in a broad range of industries and practice areas, including but not limited to the following: antitrust and trade regulation; bankruptcy; commercial litigation; corporate law; public finance; creditor's rights; employee benefits; environmental law; financial institutions; federal Indian and gaming law; government relations; health care; immigration; information technology; insurance law; intellectual property; international law; labor and employment law; public utilities; product liability; real estate development and finance; school law; state and federal tax; tax-exempt organizations; trusts and estates; and white-collar crime. Additional information about the firm may be found at www.quarles.com.