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**CONSUMER LAWYERS WITHDRAW INITIATIVES FOR 2008 BALLOT**

*Discussions open the door for truce between dueling interests*

(May 7, 2008) Denver, Colorado – Recent negotiations between consumer attorneys from the Colorado Trial Lawyers Association (CTLA) and a group of homebuilders from Colorado Springs backing a ballot initiative to limit attorney's fees have proven successful, as both groups formally withdrew their initiatives yesterday evening. Ongoing discussions between the two groups began shortly after CTLA filed nine initiatives on April 23rd. CTLA opposed the homebuilders' ballot initiative as it would have made it harder for consumers to exercise their constitutional right of access to the courtroom.

"While we were firmly committed to support our ballot initiatives on behalf of Colorado consumers and working families, the best approach was to sit down and talk with the proponents of the attorney fee initiative," said John Sadwith, Executive Director of the Colorado Trial Lawyers Association. "In situations like this one where you have two groups with opposing viewpoints, the best approach is to invite everyone to have meaningful dialogue and talk through the issues. I hope that other groups fighting initiative battles will use our successful negotiations as an incentive to continue their own discussions," Sadwith added.

*The Colorado Trial Lawyers Association is comprised of Colorado trial lawyers who are committed to the protection and advancement of individual rights and to the advancement of trial advocacy skills, high ethical standards and professionalism in the ongoing effort to preserve and improve the American system of jurisprudence.*

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