FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BALLARD PARTNERS

Ballard Partners Expands; Brad Burleson Joining Tallahassee Office

~Burleson to Lobby at Ballard Partners with a Focus on Transportation Issues~

TALLAHASSEE – Florida's leading government affairs firm, Ballard Partners, today announced the addition of new partner, Brad Burleson, to its Tallahassee team. Burleson brings transportation expertise and focus that will add to Ballard Partners' growing transportation portfolio.

"We are excited to welcome Brad to the team," said Brian Ballard, president of Ballard Partners. "Brad's years of experience and wealth of knowledge in the areas of construction and transportation will be an enormous asset to our team and incredibly beneficial to our clients."

Burleson brings valuable experience from Washington, D.C., as well as both the Florida and Alabama state capitols. Most recently, Burleson practiced law with a primary focus on transportation and construction litigation. His position included the representation of highway contractors in disputes and negotiations with the Florida Department of Transportation and local airport authorities, as well as arbitration disputes over the construction of public landfills and various other commercial issues. Additionally, as part of his law practice, Burleson drafted and revised transportation-related legislation and agency specifications.

"I am honored to join Ballard Partners," said Burleson. "I look forward to this new opportunity and contributing to the already strong and successful team that Brian has assembled."

In addition to Burleson's extensive transportation expertise, his background includes the representation of mortgage lenders and servicers, equipment dealers in labor disputes, public housing authorities in property disputes, and securities litigation. Not only does Burleson have an extensive legal background, he also has experience assisting local municipalities in seeking federal and state appropriations and grants, and advising clients on campaign finance rules and regulations.

Burleson previously served as a legislative correspondent for U.S. Senator Richard Shelby and staff assistant to U.S. Representative Clay Shaw. He received his Juris Doctorate from Washington and Lee University School of Law and a Bachelor of Science in Political Science from Vanderbilt University.

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Ballard Partners has been named by state and national publications as the leading government affairs firm in the Sunshine State. The Florida-based lobbying firm, with offices in Tallahassee, Jacksonville, West Palm Beach, Miami, Orlando and Tampa, combines extensive experience in government affairs with unwavering advocacy to maximize results for the clients they serve. Visit <u>http://ballard-partners.com</u> for more information.