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AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION NAMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WASHINGTON, D.C., April 22, 2010 — The American Bar Association today named Jack L. Rives, formerly the judge advocate general, United States Air Force, headquartered at the Pentagon, as its new executive director. The appointment is effective on Law Day, May 1, 2010.

In making the announcement, ABA President Carolyn B. Lamm said, “We determined that Jack Rives’ exemplary service as the judge advocate general of the Air Force — including his experience leading a global organization of legal professionals and advocating for effective, ethical solutions to issues of national and international importance — made him the perfect individual to lead the ABA to increase membership, improve member service and address the global focus of delivery of legal services.”

Rives served as senior U.S. Air Force (three star rank) attorney and was responsible for managing some 2,600 active duty, reserve and civilian lawyers. He led a reorganization of the delivery of legal services at Pentagon Headquarters.

As a voting member of corporate-level U.S. Air Force Council, which is responsible for 670,000 employees and an annual budget of \$120 billion, Rives steered resolution of critical issues to carefully balance priorities and ensure funding for those most significant.

“Jack seems to have an exceptional talent in bringing people together; advocating for changes when necessary, and standing up for core fundamentals on which this nation was formed,” continued Lamm.

As the judge advocate general, Rives served as legal adviser to the secretary of the Air Force and all officers and agencies of the Department of the U.S. Air Force, and oversaw an annual budget of \$47 million. Rives previously served as chief counsel, Air Combat Command at Langley Air Force Base, Va. During this time, Rives assured the full range of legal support within the United States and overseas following the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

Rives earlier served as the first chief of the Air Force Executive Issues Team, working directly for the secretary of the Air Force and chief of staff, on critical communications issues.

Rives has his juris doctorate from the University of Georgia, Athens, Ga. and bachelor of arts in political science, also from the University of Georgia, Athens. He is a member of the Georgia Bar Association and served on Board of Trustees of the Air Force Aid Society. Among his many awards and decorations are the Distinguished Service Medal with oak leaf cluster and the Defense Superior Service Medal.

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