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## NICOLAIDES NAMES FOUR NEW PARTNERS

-- Leading Insurance Boutique Continues Strategic Growth --

**Chicago, IL – January 15, 2016** – Nicolaides Fink Thorpe Michaelides Sullivan LLP announced that four attorneys have been elected to the partnership, effective January 1, 2016.

"These dynamic lawyers bring great depth to our team and share our commitment to exemplary client service," said Richard Nicolaides, Managing Partner. Against the backdrop of serious compression across the legal marketplace, the Nicolaides firm has nearly doubled in size since it was established just two years ago. "Our new partners join the ranks of consummate professionals who are deeply committed to our clients and the insurance industry at large."

The lawyers elected to the partnership are:

<u>Jared K. Clapper</u> litigates complex insurance coverage issues and has achieved favorable rulings, settlements and summary judgments on behalf of sophisticated insurers across the United States and Canada. Jared has significant experience litigating construction and product defect claims and emerging bad faith issues. He has also successfully resolved cases in the environmental and commercial transportation contexts. Jared received his J.D. from the University of Illinois College of Law and earned a B.A. from Southern Illinois University Carbondale. Jared works in the firm's Chicago office.

**Ian A. Cooper** concentrates his practice on complex insurance coverage disputes involving the scope of insurance coverage, construction defect, environmental/toxic tort liability and claims of bad faith. He also counsels clients in the area of primary and excess general liability and risk management. He has successfully prosecuted and defended challenging insurance issues in state and federal courts throughout the United States. Ian earned a J.D. from the John Marshall Law School and a B.S. from Illinois State University. Ian works in the firm's Chicago office.

**<u>Katherine E. Mast</u>** advises insurers in a wide range of coverage and litigation matters, including professional liability claims, environmental risks and complicated priority of coverage issues in large losses. She earned a J.D. from Loyola Law School, Los Angeles and a B.A. from Pepperdine University. Katherine works in the firm's Los Angeles office.

<u>Matthew S. Sorem</u> counsels and represents insurers litigating complex coverage issues in state and federal courts nationwide. Matt has helped the firm's clients to achieve success in disputes under a range of insurance contracts, including commercial general liability, professional liability, pollution liability, excess/umbrella, and municipal liability policies. Matt received a J.D. from Loyola University Chicago School of Law and a B.A. from Washington University in St. Louis. Matt works in the firm's Chicago office.

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**About Nicolaides LLP:** From offices in Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles and White Plains, Nicolaides LLP advises clients on complex coverage disputes in federal and state courts throughout the country and alternative dispute resolution settings in the US and around the world. In addition to its core strength in trying cases, the firm has a nationally recognized appellate practice. For more information, visit <u>http://www.nicolaidesllp.com</u>.