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CONTACT: Thomas Solberg
State Bar of Wisconsin
(608) 250-6025
(608) 630-0432 (cell)
(800) 444-9404, ext. 6025
tsolberg@wisbar.org

Local Attorney Elected to Young Lawyer Leadership Post

May 27, 2009 – Milwaukee-area Attorney Steven McGaver has been elected to the Board of the Young Lawyers Division of the State Bar of Wisconsin. McGaver is an associate with the Milwaukee law firm of Gimbel, Reilly, Guerin & Brown. He focuses his litigation oriented practice on criminal, civil, municipal and licensing matters. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin—Madison in 2003 and Marquette University Law School, *cum laude*, in 2006 and is admitted to all Wisconsin state and federal courts.

The Young Lawyers Division, which includes all Wisconsin attorneys under age 36 or in their first five years of practice regardless of age, involves young and new lawyers in public service projects and assists them in the practice of law. The YLD utilizes its statewide network of lawyers to serve their communities in many ways. It collects gently used professional clothing for use by low-income individuals interviewing for jobs and it collects used cell phones for use by victims of domestic violence. Other priorities include:

Educational Outreach: YLD attorneys visit elementary school classrooms across the state on "Law Day" (May 1 of each year) to share insights about the legal system and answer questions about the law and what it's like to be a lawyer;

Legal Assistance: The YLD promotes volunteer (pro bono) legal services to victims of natural disasters (e.g., floods), has partnered with local bar groups and others to provide direct legal assistance to families and has focused on the complex legal challenges facing Wisconsin farmers (including coauthoring a Legal Guide for Wisconsin Farmers to clarify basic legal rights and responsibilities); and

Legal Training: In addition to providing career assistance to young lawyers, the YLD sponsors continuing legal education (CLE) opportunities (this month, for example, a YLD seminar will educate lawyers about common legal issues faced by victims of natural disasters).

"I am delighted and honored to serve on the YLD board of directors, and look forward to the opportunity to work with such an incredible group of dedicated and talented legal professionals. In the age of Facebook, weblogs, Twitter, e-filing and smartphones, we as lawyers need to implement the use of these incredibly efficient and useful tools wherever possible in order to maximize the services we are able to provide to our clients and communities," McGaver said.

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Page Two
May 27, 2009

"As young lawyers, I believe that it is our responsibility to lead the way in continuing to integrate technology into the practice of law and that the bar should steward this process by educating lawyers and judges on the benefits, advantages, as well as the dangers, and pitfalls of utilizing technology in the office and courtroom," McGaver concluded.

The State Bar of Wisconsin is the mandatory professional association, created by the Wisconsin Supreme Court, for attorneys who hold a Wisconsin law license. With more than 23,000 members, the State Bar aids the courts in improving the administration of justice, provides continuing legal education for its members to help them maintain their expertise, and assists Wisconsin lawyers in carrying out community service initiatives to educate the public about the legal system and the value of lawyers. For more information, visit www.wisbar.org or www.legalexplorer.com.

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