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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CARLSMITH BALL HONOLULU PARTNER APPOINTED  
REGENT FOR THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF TRUST AND ESTATE COUNSEL**

***Landmark appointment makes Mary Jane Connell third attorney from Hawaii to serve on ACTEC board***

HONOLULU – Carlsmith Ball LLP is pleased to announce that **Mary Jane Connell**, a partner and member of the firm’s Tax, Estate Planning, and Wealth Management practice group, has been appointed a regent for the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel (ACTEC), a national organization of lawyers founded in 1949. ACTEC members are elected to the College by demonstrating the highest level of integrity, commitment to the profession, competence and experience as trust and estate counselors. Connell is only the third attorney from Hawaii to serve on the board of regents in ACTEC’s 60-year history.

“This is a great honor for Mary Jane,” said Carlsmith Ball Chair Karl Kobayashi. “She continues to raise the bar in the area of estate planning and this appointment is recognition of her exceptional work. Having a member of our firm serve on ACTEC’s board of regents gives us all great pride.”

Connell also has the distinction of obtaining an “AV” professional rating in the *Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory*. A lawyer gains the “AV” rating when she is viewed by her peers as being at the highest level of professional excellence. Connell is also ranked among *The Best Lawyers in America 2010* in the field of Trusts and Estates. She is a member of the Hawaii State Bar Association and Hawaii State Judiciary Committee on the Uniform Probate Code and Probate Court Practices, and is admitted to practice before all Hawaii and U.S. Federal courts. Connell earned her Juris Doctor degree from Fordham University School of Law.

ACTEC is made up of 2,600 lawyers who have made substantial contributions to the field of trusts and estates law through writing, teaching and bar leadership activities. Working together, ACTEC members are able to improve one another’s ability to provide the most efficient and highest quality services to their clients; develop qualified trust and estate counselors; improve and reform probate, trust and tax laws, procedures, and standards of professional responsibility; and cooperate with bar associations and other organizations with similar missions.

Carlsmith Ball LLP is a leading law firm in the Pacific region with close to 100 lawyers in seven offices in Saipan, Guam, Honolulu, Maui, Kona, Hilo and Los Angeles. For more than 150 years, Carlsmith Ball has assisted clients in achieving their objectives through effective, result-oriented representation in large commercial and financial transactions and in complex arbitration and litigation matters. For more information about the firm, visit [www.Carlsmith.com](http://www.Carlsmith.com).

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