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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

burton + BURTON[®] Welcomes New In-house General Counsel Bogart, GA (August 30, 2021)

burton + BURTON[®] announces that Darrel Begnaud has been appointed its in-house General Counsel, effective August 31, 2021. Mr. Begnaud, who will be closing his private practice, has represented burton + BURTON[®] as outside counsel since its formation. Mr. Begnaud is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of The University of Georgia and a Cum Laude graduate of The University of Georgia School of Law, where he was Managing Editor of *The Georgia Law Review*. At The University of Georgia, he was the Brigade Commander of the U.S. Army ROTC and was commissioned a Second Lieutenant upon graduation as a Distinguished Military Graduate. He is also a member of the Gridiron Secret Society.

Darrel began his practice of law in Athens, Georgia, with one of the oldest law firms in the South, Erwin, Epting, Gibson & Chilivis, which originally formed in 1867. During his years of practice, he has represented banks, hospitals, real estate developers, newspapers, physicians, attorneys, franchisors, franchisees, insurance companies, hotels, a national bakery, landlords, and numerous corporations and limited liability companies.

He has been a visiting lecturer at The University of Georgia School of Law and a speaker at continuing legal education programs for the benefit of other attorneys. He holds an AV Preeminent[®] rating from Martindale-Hubbell, the highest rating for legal ability and ethics. He is a past President of the Western Circuit Bar Association (Athens-Clarke and Oconee Counties), past President of the Athens West Rotary Club, a member of The Athens First United Methodist Church, an honorary member of the Junior League of Athens, Inc., a former coach of recreational baseball teams, and a past coach of the Clarke Central Mock Trial Team.

Darrel Begnaud is married to the former Jane Stiles of Athens, Georgia, and has three children and four grandchildren.

About burton + BURTON

Founded in 1982, burton + BURTON[®] is a family-owned and -operated business that has grown into the largest wholesale distributor of balloons and coordinating gift products in the world. In addition to its showroom at the corporate headquarters in Bogart, Georgia, the company also maintains permanent showrooms at AmericasMart[®] Atlanta, Dallas Market CenterSM, and Las Vegas Market[™].

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