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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Illinois Diversity Council Announces 2017 Legal Champion Awardees

Chicago - The Illinois Diversity Council is proud to announce the 2017 Legal Champion Awardees, a definitive list of female legal professionals who demonstrate an undeniable commitment to excellence within their organizations. Each executive honored with this distinguished award will be formally recognized at the 2017 Illinois Legal Women in Leadership Symposium on Wednesday, May 24, 2017. This event offers women a venue to learn from and network with many of the top legal professionals in Illinois. The theme of this year's conference is "Women in Law: Tipping the Scales."

"The 2017 Legal Champion award highlights the most extraordinary female leaders in the state," said Dennis Kennedy, Founder and Chair of the National Diversity Council. "We are honored to recognize such distinguished women dedicated to continuous success."

The 2017 Illinois Legal Champion award selection was based on the following criteria:

- Must be General Counsel or Corporate Secretary
- Demonstrates achievements across the full spectrum of in-house responsibility.
- Performs above and beyond the usual requirements of his or her professional capability.
- Shows commitment to diversity and community well-being.
- Displays high integrity and ethical behavior.

For more information on the 2017 Illinois Legal Women in Leadership Symposium, please visit our event website at www.illinoislegalwils.com or contact Lanre Ogunbufunmi at lanre.ogunbufunmi@nationaldiversitycouncil.org.

The 2017 Legal Champion Awardees

Michelle M. Warner

*Senior VP, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary
USG Corporation*

Talita Erickson

*General Counsel & Chief Diversity Officer
Barilla America*

Susan L. Lees

*Executive Vice President & General Counsel
Allstate Insurance*

Suzanne S. Bettman

*Chief Compliance Officer, Executive VP & Corporate Secretary
RR Donnelly*

About the Illinois Diversity Council

A non-profit organization committed to fostering a learning environment for organizations to grow in their knowledge of diversity. The council affords opportunities for organizations to share best practices and learn from top corporate leaders in the areas of diversity and inclusion.

More about the Illinois Diversity Council is available at: www.illinoisdiversitycouncil.org.

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