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National Thought Leader on Diversity in the Law Establishes Her Own Law Practice, Focusing on Complex Commercial Litigation

(CLEVELAND) – January 4, 2011 – Highly accomplished Cleveland attorney Charna E. Sherman today announced the establishment of her own law practice, Charna E. Sherman Law Offices Co., LPA. The firm is located at 5310 Key Tower, 127 Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio 44114.

The female-owned boutique will focus on complex commercial litigation, including toxic tort, environmental, health and safety, product liability, intellectual property and white collar defense.

Sherman, previously an equity partner with Squire, Sanders & Dempsey LLP, launches her firm with more than 25 years of experience as an accomplished litigator and trial lawyer, as well as strategic negotiator in complex mediation and settlements. For most of her career, she has represented major clients, including Fortune 5 companies, in some of their most sensitive, high stakes legal disputes. She has represented numerous individual and corporate clients as both plaintiffs and defendants in a broad range of cases in federal and state courts.

"This firm is committed to promoting the core values of law as a profession, relentlessly resolving legal problems to meet client business objectives without sacrificing workplace diversity," said Sherman. "We are energized by the opportunity to solve big legal problems, and pursue justice for our clients and in the law."

A national and international leader on issues of diversity and advancing women in the legal profession, Sherman is simultaneously launching The Ruby Shoes Fund to support new initiatives to empower women on the ladder of success in the legal profession. She is committed to donating 10 percent of her law firm's profits to philanthropy, with the largest percentage to support the Ruby Shoes Fund.

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Sherman was one of a handful of the most successful female partners at Squire, Sanders & Dempsey LLP, where she served from 2003 to 2010. She co-chaired the firm's corporate compliance, investigations and white collar defense practice.

Previously, she was a partner with Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP and an attorney with Messerman & Messerman, both of Cleveland. Earlier, she was an attorney with the nationally renowned Williams & Connolly of Washington D.C., a law clerk for the Honorable John H. Pratt, U.S. District Judge for the District of Columbia, and a legislative assistant to U.S. Senator Daniel P. Moynihan. She graduated magna cum laude both from Georgetown University Law Center, where she received her law degree, and Harvard University, where she earned her bachelor's degree.

Charna E. Sherman Law Offices Co., LPA is a Cleveland-based, female-owned boutique focusing on complex commercial litigation. Visit <u>www.charnalaw.com</u> for more information.