

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Laird A. Lile names Sydney Smith as Resident at Law

NAPLES, Fla. (Oct. 8, 2013) – Laird A. Lile, a wills, trusts and estates attorney in Naples, has selected Sydney A. Smith as the second Resident at Law at his Naples law firm, Laird A. Lile, P.A. Smith joined the firm in late September following a competitive application and interview process.

Smith earned her J.D. from Stetson University College of Law in Gulfport, Fla. and her B.A. from the University of Florida. A member of the Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity and the Elder Law Society at Stetson, Smith passed The Florida Bar exam in September.

Lile introduced the Resident at Law program in 2011 for his wills, trusts and estates practice as a way to successfully transition law school graduates from the classroom to the practice of law, much as physicians do upon completing medical school. The 18-month residency program offers a salary, participation in professional organizations and bar meetings with all fees covered by the firm, and hands-on experience with clients and real legal cases, with no minimum billable-hour requirement.

"The Resident at Law concept has been well-received within the legal profession," said Lile. "The experience has been rewarding both for me and our first resident, Patrick Mize. In fact, Patrick will remain with the firm and assist with Sydney's transition into our practice."

An elected member of the Board of Governors for The Florida Bar, Lile serves on the Supreme Court's Florida Courts Technology Commission, which oversees, manages and directs the development and use of technology within the judicial branch under the direction of the Florida Supreme Court.

Lile is certified as a wills, trusts and estates lawyer, a Fellow in the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel and serves on its Board of Regents. He is past chair of The Florida Bar's Real Property, Probate and Trust Law Section, has been included in Woodward/White's The Best Lawyers in America since 1995 and was named to Florida Trend's Legal Elite Hall of Fame in 2010.

Laird A. Lile, P.A., provides legal counsel on estate and trust-related matters, including estate planning, estate and trust administration, probate-related litigation and tax matters. The firm's office is located at 3033 Riviera Drive, Suite 104, in Naples. For more information, call 239-649-7778 or visit www.LairdALile.com.

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Contact:

Tina Matte, PR Counsel, Gravina, Smith, Matte & Arnold Marketing and PR, 239-275-5758 Tina@GSMA.pro