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Ulmer & Berne Celebrates Centennial Anniversary - Donates \$100,000 to The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland

CLEVELAND — Ulmer & Berne LLP, established in Cleveland in 1908 by Yank Ulmer and Joe Berne, is celebrating its 100th Year Anniversary in 2008. The two founding attorneys graduated from Western Reserve University Law School in the fall of 1908 and immediately began the practice of law together. They remained active until their late 80's and built strong reputations as lawyers and involved community members.

What began as a law firm with two attorneys, one desk and one phone has grown into a 180-attorney practice with four offices across the Midwest. To celebrate Ulmer & Berne's birthday, the Firm and its lawyers and staff will be participating in various community and civic activities throughout the year to give back to the cities in which they live and work every day. Currently, four different volunteer projects are in the works.

Yank Ulmer founded the National Foundation for Eye Research and was instrumental in raising money and awareness in the field of blinding eye diseases. Joe Berne served for nine years as President of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, pioneering the building of the Federation's headquarters at 1750 Euclid Avenue. It was Joe Berne who persuaded B. E. Albee to build what was at that time one of the most beautiful and luxurious theaters in the United States, The Palace Theater on East 17th Street and Euclid Avenue in Cleveland, Ohio. He also was a trustee of the Mt. Sinai Hospital.

In honor of its 100 years, the Firm contributed \$100,000 to The Legal Aid Society of Cleveland. In Cleveland Legal Aid's 102-year history, this is the single largest gift given to the organization. The funds will be used for the Volunteer Lawyers Program and Legal Aid programs in Cincinnati and Columbus, where the Firm also has offices.

Ulmer & Berne is one of Ohio's largest law firms. In a survey of Fortune 500 companies by Corporate Counsel magazine, Ulmer & Berne has been chosen as a Go-To Law Firm(R) for both 2007 and 2008. Less than one-half of one percent of all the law firms in the US and abroad received this distinction. Also in 2007, the Firm was recognized in The BTI Consulting Group's survey of corporate counsel as one of only 85 firms nationally that "delivers the best value for the dollar."

A full-service Firm with 180 attorneys in Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati and Chicago, Ulmer & Berne represents publicly traded and privately held companies, financial institutions, pharmaceutical companies, family businesses, international joint ventures and affiliations, investor groups, start-ups and emerging businesses, public bodies and nonprofit organizations. For more information, visit www.ulmer.com.

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