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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HEALTHCARE PARTNER HOWARD L. PIERCE JOINS THE LAW FIRM OF SEIGER GFELLER LAURIE LLP

West Hartford, CT – December 6, 2010 – The law firm of Seiger Gfeller Laurie LLP is pleased to announce that healthcare attorney Howard L. Pierce has joined the firm as a partner.

“Howard is a highly respected, talented healthcare attorney with strong national third-party payor relations and significant experience with claim cost containment litigation,” said Robert D. Laurie, Partner, Seiger Gfeller Laurie LLP. “His payor side healthcare expertise rounds out the firm’s existing expertise on the investigative side.”

Pierce’s practice spans more than two decades focusing on the representation of large healthcare payors, self-funded organizations and property/casualty insurers in healthcare provider overpayment cost containment issues across the United States. He also represents whistleblowers in healthcare *qui tam*/False Claim Act lawsuits as well as whistleblowers with information about federal tax fraud and tax underpayments that may be entitled to a reward from the Internal Revenue Service.

Prior to joining the firm, Pierce was a partner with the law firm of McElroy, Deutsch, Mulvaney & Carpenter, LLP. Pierce spent 16 years as a federal agent, the last 10 of which were

as a supervisory investigator, with the Office of Inspector General, United States Department of Health and Human Services (Recipient of Special Achievement Award from the United States Department of Justice), concentrating on investigating, criminally prosecuting, and seeking civil remedies for violations of Federal Medicare/Medicaid laws. Pierce then went on to create and lead the group health claims inappropriate billing deterrence and detection component of the Hartford Life Insurance Company (1990 Corporate Quality Award Recipient) and was also a corporate officer and Director of Investigations at Phoenix Mutual Life Insurance Company.

Pierce currently serves as general counsel to the New England Anti-Fraud Association. An active community leader, he is a member of the American Bar Association's Criminal Law Section and Litigation Healthcare Law Section; American Trial Lawyers Association; Connecticut Bar Association; Federal Bar Association; Hartford County Bar Association; and the National Health Lawyers Association.

Pierce holds a Juris Doctor from Quinnipiac University School of Law and a Bachelors of Science from the School of Management at State University of New York at Buffalo. He is admitted to practice in Connecticut, United States District Court, District of Connecticut, United States District Court, Southern District of New York, and the United States Supreme Court.

Seiger Gfeller Laurie LLP represents clients in complex litigation matters spanning a variety of business markets and jurisdictions, both nationally and internationally. For more information, visit www.sgllawgroup.com.

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