



NEWS RELEASE

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**Mary LeVine Of Blalock, Walters, Held & Johnson
Is Elected President Of The Manatee County Bar Association**

BRADENTON, Florida – August 22, 2007 – Blalock, Walters, Held & Johnson, P.A., one of Manatee County's oldest law firms, is pleased to announce that Mary Fabre LeVine has been sworn in to serve as the President of the Manatee County Bar Association. Mary practices in the field of commercial litigation and civil appeals, and is an active member of the Florida and California Bars. A graduate of the University Of Miami School Of Law, Mary relocated to Bradenton from California in 2001 to join Blalock Walters.

For the past four years, Mary has served on the Manatee Bar's Board of Directors serving most recently in the positions of president elect and secretary, respectively. Mary was the author of a monthly column in the Bar's newsletter, "Inter Alia" and active in Bar leadership and programs. Mary is also vice chair of the Florida Bar's local 12th Judicial Circuit Grievance Committee and was past vice president of Florida Association of Women Lawyers, Manatee.

"I consider being selected to such a prestigious position, a true honor," stated Mary LeVine, "The Bar Association serves a critical role in our community and as the new President I hope to continue this legacy and ensure that we diligently work to improve the administration of justice in Manatee County."

"This will be an exciting year for the Manatee Bar from Chief Justice Fred Lewis's "Justice Teaching Initiative" in the Manatee County Schools to the annual Moot Court program for high school students, and the opening of the new Manatee County Judicial Center in the spring of 2008," Mary added.

"Everyone at Blalock Walters is extremely proud of Mary and this accomplishment. She has proven her excellent legal skills during her practice at the firm and I am certain Mary will elevate this new position to an even higher standard for the future," stated Cliff Walters, Managing Partner at Blalock Walters.

Serving a wide range of large and small clients from various industries, Blalock Walters is a full-service law firm built on a foundation of integrity and hard work. For more than eighty years, the firm has served as a trusted advisor in resolving the legal needs of individuals, leading businesses and other institutions throughout Southwest Florida and beyond.

For more information about Blalock, Walters, Held & Johnson, P.A., or to arrange an interview with Mary LeVine contact John Fain at 941-351-0024 or email jfain@grapeinc.com. Grapevine Communications is an award-winning advertising, marketing, and public relations firm serving clients nationwide.