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For Immediate Release

SPORTS LAWYERS ASSOCIATION 40th ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM ANNOUNCED

Largest Gathering of the Association's Sports Law Professionals Will be Held in Chicago, May 15-17th

RESTON, Va. (April 2, 2014) – The Sports Lawyers Association (SLA), the leading organization of professionals dedicated to the practicing and teaching of sports law in the United States, will host its 40th annual conference at the Fairmont Hotel in Chicago from May 15-17th. The SLA conference is the preeminent gathering of sports law professionals and will present a speaker program featuring leading experts and practitioners.

The conference highlights include: panels featuring expert analysis and debate of top legal issues facing the sports industry, a celebration of the SLA's 40th Anniversary, and a presentation honoring the 2014 Award of Excellence winner. The conference will also include announcements of the Law Student Writing Competition winners and the 2014 Philanthropy Initiative recipient and a special tribute to Michael Weiner, MLBPA Executive Director and SLA Board Member who passed away last November. In addition, there will be special breakfasts for international attendees and for new members/first time attendees.

"The Sports Lawyers Association is proud to celebrate the 40th Anniversary edition of our annual conference this spring in Chicago," said Glenn Wong, Professor, Mark H. McCormack Department of Sport Management at UMass Amherst and SLA President. "Our Conference committee, led by chair Debbie Spander, has done a tremendous job of assembling an impressive roster of leading sports law practitioners and respected industry voices who will share insight and provide analysis throughout the event program. I am looking forward to the Conference spearheading important conversation and vibrant dialogue on the wide spectrum of sports law issues and legal challenges facing the global sports landscape. We are especially proud to have the opportunity to honor our Award of Excellence and Law Student Writing Competition winners, in addition to recognizing our 2014 Philanthropic Initiative."

"We are excited to present an innovative and comprehensive program at our 40th Annual Sports Lawyers Association Conference," said Debbie Spander, 2014 SLA Conference Chair and Vice President, Broadcasting, Wasserman Media Group. "We look forward to once again bringing together the best and brightest sports lawyers to debate topical issues impacting all facets of the industry."

Some of the featured panels will include:

The Current State of Agents and Agencies: You Have Who Representing You? (Moderator-Debbie Spander, Vice President, Broadcasting, Wasserman Media Group) Impact of Biogenesis and Lance Armstrong Cases on Drug Testing In Sports (Moderator-Travis T. Tygart, CEO, U.S. Anti-Doping Agency)

The Evolving Legal Landscape of College Athletics

(Moderator-Warren K. Zola, Executive Director, Carroll School of Management, Boston College) Balancing Legal Ethics in a 24/7 Media World

(Moderator-Gabe Feldman, Professor Tulane Law School & Director of Tulane Sports Law Program) Legal Issues in "Ambush Marketing": The Digital Age

(Moderator-Stephanie J. Vardavas, Founder & Principal, Irenic, LLC)

The 2014 SLA Conference Committee is chaired by Spander with vice-chairs, Feldman and Matthew J. Mitten, Professor, Marquette University Law School and Director of the National Sports Law Institute. Conference registration, agenda, hotel information and other details are available at www.sportslaw.org (Agenda is subject to change). Please follow the Sports Lawyers Association on Twitter @SportsLawyers where conference updates and panel highlights will be posted using hashtag #SLAC14.

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