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Katten Muchin Rosenman Named a 2007 Working Mother & Flex-Time Lawyers' Best Law Firm for Women

First-of-Its-Kind Initiative Honors Trailblazers in Work-Life Balance

CHICAGO – **Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP** is pleased to announce that it has been named among the nation's top 50 law firms for women in *Working Mother* magazine and Flex-Time Lawyers' inaugural list of the Best Law Firms for Women.

Working Mother magazine, the authoritative source for career mothers, and Flex-Time Lawyers LLC, a national consulting firm advising attorneys and legal employers on work-life balance and the retention and advancement of women, have named Katten a 2007 Working Mother & Flex-Time Lawyers Best Law Firm for Women. A new initiative from the leading advocates for work-life balance and women-friendly policies, Best Law Firms for Women honors 50 winning firms for their commitment to the retention and advancement of female talent.

"Since its founding, Working Mother magazine has been the champion of progressive, women-friendly changes in the workplace," said Carol Evans, CEO, Working Mother Media. "Every year we see substantive advances in companies' policies across the country, and we are so excited to be able to pair with Flex-Time Lawyers to celebrate change in a field that has historically struggled to support women and their life choices. I commend Katten for taking the lead for women lawyers."

"We are delighted to celebrate Katten for its efforts and successes in retaining and promoting women, said Deborah Epstein Henry, Founder and President of Flex-Time Lawyers LLC. We hope its standing on the list of Best Law Firms for Women will further inspire Katten to use the national benchmarking data now available to it through participation in this initiative to improve the status of women in the profession and raise the bar on what makes a best law firm for women," added Henry.

"Over the years, we have worked diligently to provide our female attorneys with the support, tools and resources essential to ensuring their long-term success and advancement within the Firm," said Vincent A.F. Sergi, Katten's national Managing Partner. "We are especially proud of the efforts undertaken by the Firm's Women's Leadership Forum, which has been instrumental in developing programming tailored to enhance the success of all of our women. To be named among the best law firms and have our efforts recognized is very gratifying."

Profiled in the August/September issue of *Working Mother* magazine, Katten is honored for creating a work environment that is hospitable to and encouraging of the advancement of women. With innovative programs and policies that help female attorneys achieve balance in their personal and professional lives and thrive as practitioners, Katten is ensuring that women are the future of private law practice.

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Katten's <u>Women's Leadership Forum</u> (WLF) was established to further the Firm's commitment to the development, retention and advancement of women and to provide a forum for its women attorneys to discuss issues and share information. A driving force for its creation was the recognition that as a national law Firm, the women at Katten have significant wisdom, experience and vision, which, when collected and shared internally and externally, can empower women at all levels in their careers to achieve success and satisfaction.

In 2005, the Firm became a lead signatory to the Chicago Bar Association's Alliance for Women's "Call to Action," a project that promotes the recruitment, retention and advancement of women in the legal profession. The WLF has also been instrumental in organizing firm wide training in areas such as business development and networking, and has organized mentoring groups that create better lines of communication among women attorneys within the Firm. The WLF also hosts regular internal events and round-table sessions to discuss specific issues that impact women in the legal workplace today, including leveraging a professional presence, balancing work and life, achieving financial wellness, and unleashing the power of personality for more success. Outside of the Firm, the WLF has joined with several organizations that support and value the advancement of women to sponsor key events.

Methodology: The application and evaluation process for the 2007 *Working Mother* & Flex-Time Lawyers Best Law Firms for Women initiative was developed in a partnership by Working Mother magazine and Flex-Time Lawyers LLC and based on *Working Mother*'s annual 100 Best Companies, a groundbreaking initiative that was first introduced in 1986, that continues to set the standard for family-friendly workplaces. To apply for the Best Law Firms for Women, Katten provided detailed information on the issues that are most important to the retention and promotion of women lawyers in six measured areas: workforce profile, benefits and compensation, parental leave, childcare, flexibility, and retention and advancement of women.

The complete list of the 2007 Working Mother & Flex-Time Lawyers Best Law Firms for Women can be found in the August/September issue of *Working Mother* magazine, on newsstands August 14, and at www.workingmother.com and www.flextimelawyers.com.

About Working Mother

Founded in 1979, *Working Mother* magazine reaches nearly 3 million readers and is the only national magazine for career mothers. Its 21-year signature initiative, *Working Mother* 100 Best Companies, is the most important benchmark for work/life practices in corporate America. The publication also releases the annual list of the Best Companies for Multicultural Women in the June issue. Working Mother is published by Working Mother Media (WMM), which also owns the National Association for Female Executives (NAFE), NAFE Magazine, the annual 100 Best Companies WorkLife Congress, as well as the Best Companies for Multicultural Women Conference and regional Town Halls. In 2006, WMM acquired Diversity Best Practices and the Business Women's Network, making Working Mother Media the largest media company in the country focused on diversity and the advancement of women. For more information, please visit www.workingmother.com.

About Flex-Time Lawyers LLC

Flex-Time Lawyers LLC® is a national consulting firm advising lawyers, law firms, bar associations, law schools and corporations on work/life balance, business development, women's initiatives, re-entry of professionals and the retention and advancement of womeny. It hosts a membership organization with chapters in New York and Philadelphia, offering networking opportunities, support, career guidance, education and information sharing to effect change. Flex-Time Lawyers LLC is a resource to the press and legal community at large on work/life balance and women's issues and also provides recruiting services. For more information, please visit www.flextimelawyers.com.

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Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP (www.kattenlaw.com) is a full-service law firm with offices in the nation's largest centers of business, government, finance and technology and an affiliated entity in London. With over 650 attorneys in more than 40 areas of practice, Katten provides timely and cost-effective counsel to clients in numerous industries. Katten provides advice for a wide range of public and private companies – from entrepreneurial, emerging-growth, and middle market firms to global Fortune 100 corporations – as well as government entities, institutions of higher learning, museums and a host of other charitable and cultural organizations.

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