



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Approval of Settlement Agreement Negotiated by Miller Brown & Dannis
Provides Millions of Dollars of Increased Revenue
for Escondido School Districts**

Miller Brown & Dannis negotiated a settlement agreement for its clients - the Escondido Union School District, the Escondido Union High School District, the San Diego County Superintendent of Schools - with the City of Escondido and its Community Development Commission which will provide a projected \$80 million more in shared tax revenue for Escondido schools over the next 25 years.

SAN DIEGO, CA – September 1, 2009 – The Business, Property, and Construction practice group of Miller Brown & Dannis (MBD), California’s full-service education law firm since 1978, achieved an historic agreement for several San Diego-area education agencies with the approval of the Revised and Restated Settlement Agreement by the City of Escondido and its Community Development Commission on August 13, 2009.

“We were very pleased and honored to help the Escondido school districts and the San Diego County Superintendent of Schools take the next step in carrying out one of the primary promises of the 1985 redevelopment election – improved schools and programs,” says Lawrence M. Schoenke, a Shareholder of the firm and the lead attorney on the case. “Every current and future public school student in the City of Escondido is a winner. Also, the positive impact that this revenue will have on public education in the community is almost immeasurable.”

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The settlement agreement clarifies and establishes the rates at which the Community Development Commission of the City of Escondido will share tax revenue increased by growth in property values in the redevelopment area of the City. While current economic conditions are unsettled, there will be an initial payment in 2010 of just over \$1 million and, over the 25 year life of the settlement agreement, there may be as much as \$ 80 million more in current dollars to fund school projects, programs, and services. (Health & Saf. Code, §33401.)

“We’ve been helping California school districts recently with tax sharing agreements made in the 1980’s with redevelopment agencies and have found that it is advisable for every school district with such an agreement to revisit and review it periodically,” says Janet L. Mueller, managing shareholder of the firm’s San Diego office and leader of the Business, Property, and Construction practice group. “These reviews may result in more consistent funds from this source.”

About Miller Brown & Dannis (MBD)

Founded in 1978, Miller Brown & Dannis is a full-service education law firm, exclusively serving California. Representing numerous school districts, community college districts and county offices of education, MBD is recognized throughout California as a firm that applies creative, proactive, in-depth advice and strategies to achieve cost-effective results on behalf of its clients.

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