



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Miller Brown & Dannis Represents Los Angeles Unified School District in Reaching Healthcare Agreement

Gregory J. Dannis, Shareholder and President of Miller Brown & Dannis, led negotiations as chief spokesperson for Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to reach an agreement with eight unions, including United Teachers Los Angeles, on a health and welfare benefits package for District employees and their families that also limits District costs.

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – February 16, 2009 – The Labor Employment and Personnel division of Miller Brown & Dannis (MBD), California's full-service education law firm since 1978, announced the conclusion of a challenging negotiation process that resulted in a win-win agreement for LAUSD, its employees and their families.

Led by Gregory (Greg) Dannis, Shareholder and President of MBD, the negotiations between LAUSD and eight unions resulted in a tentative three-year agreement on health and welfare benefits that not only preserves a generous healthcare package for employees and retirees, but also limits District costs by setting maximum dollar contributions in each year of the agreement. This agreement affirms the self-governance of a health benefits committee composed of both District and union members whose responsibility will be to implement and monitor healthcare programs under the negotiated expense caps.

"By reaching this health and welfare agreement, I believe both the District and its employees are in a much better place today because the expense levels are established, and employee representatives have taken primary responsibility to implement reforms that keep the cost of benefits within that set budget," says Greg Dannis, a leader of MBD's Labor, Employment and Personnel practice area. "I also believe the foundation we have built with our negotiations will lead to realistic health plan reforms, many of which have been made by other districts, to contain the costs of benefits.

Adds Dannis: "This agreement enables the District to plan a re-design of the internal attributes of the healthcare plan that can save money. Not only do LAUSD employees and retirees receive a generous benefits package, but this agreement also gives the parties room to make cost-effective reforms."

With more than 28 years experience working on behalf of public schools throughout California, Greg Dannis has negotiated in subject areas that are often on the cutting edge of educational issues. A regular and prominent speaker on all issues of California education law, Dannis will deliver a presentation on “Staying Legal” at the ACSA Personnel Institute in Pomona, February 26, 2009. For more information on this and all MBD attorney speaking engagements, please visit the firm’s website at: www.mbdlaw.com.

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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.