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For Immediate Release

August 1, 2012

## Idaho State Bar Honors former Idaho Justice McDevitt

BOISE - At its annual meeting in July, the Idaho State Bar honored former Idaho Supreme Court Justice Charles F. McDevitt, Boise, with the Distinguished Lawyer Award. A significant legacy for Justice McDevitt includes creating recreational space for the community and providing steady tax revenue for the state.

Justice McDevitt served for many years on the Boise Parks and Recreation Board and was involved in gathering large donations for the 160-acre Simplot Soccer Fields and establishment of the namesake Charles F. McDevitt Youth Sports Complex in West Boise. The complex includes a skateboard park, playgrounds and 30 acres of green space for youth sports.

He counts as one of his accomplishments serving in the Idaho Legislature and working with elected leaders to establish a state sales tax. This was needed, he said, because the state had fiscal problems funding its school system and the sales tax would diversify the state's revenue sources.

### Civic Work –

Idaho House of Representatives 1963-66 (elected to two terms and successfully pushed for a sales tax to stabilize funding for education)

Idaho Supreme Court 1989-1997

Initiated mediation for family courts and in civil litigation; initiated the statewide Court Assistance Offices, initiated State Court-Tribal Court Forum.

Boise Parks and Recreation Commission

Section member – Business and Corporate Law, Professionalism and Ethics, Water Law

Organizer – Simplot Sports Complex, (161 acres)

Namesake - Charles F. McDevitt Youth Sports Complex (30 acres)

Foothills Conservation Advisory Board

### Board of Commissioners

Mary "Molly" O'Leary	Paul W. Daugharty	William H. Wellman	Robert T. Wetherell	Paul B. Rippel	Diane K. Minnich Executive Director
President	President Elect	Commissioner	Commissioner	Commissioner	
PO Box 7218	110 Wallace Avenue	PO Box 453	PO Box 2598	PO Box 51219	
Boise, ID 83707	Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814	Nampa, ID 83653	Boise, ID 83701	Idaho Falls, ID 83405	

Firms –

Richards, Haga and Eberle; Boise Cascade general counsel; Co-founder Farmers and Merchants State Bank; President and CEO of Beck Industries; Senior corporate management at Singer Company; Ada County Public Defender; co-founder Givens, McDevitt, Pursley and Webb; McDevitt and Miller.

Other Awards -

2005 ISB Professionalism Award

2009 ISB Service Award

Award of Legal Merit, University of Idaho College of Law

Robert M. Artz Award, National Recreation and Park Association

In others' words -

"It's no exaggeration to say that Chuck McDevitt's service to Idaho and the state bar has established a standard of excellence that few ever attain. . . . On the Court he maintained his lifelong commitment to access and fairness for all Idahoans and served as a diligent administrator and advocate for judicial efficiency and accountability." - Cecil Andrus

"Our state is indeed fortunate to have the services of Judge McDevitt. I can think of no one more deserving of this honor." – David H. Bieter, mayor of Boise

"Charlie just gets things done for the profession and the community without beating his own drum." – Merlyn Clark

"He was known as a hard-working and no nonsense lawyer, and you ought to be well prepared if you faced him in court or across the table. . . . I observed the massive amount of time he spent helping the young lawyers in his employ learn how to do their job and to organize an effective and smooth operating office. Later, when I served on the Idaho Supreme Court from 1989 to 1997 with Chuck, I had a close opportunity to see and appreciate his legal skills, as well as his executive capability when he became Chief Justice. He worked diligently and expertly at the task of making wise and correct decisions in the hundreds of cases upon which we shared the responsibility of helping the Court make a decision." – Justice Byron J. Johnson

"Our office sees a constant stream of people coming to him for advice and guidance on charitable and civic affairs – whether it be masterminding the Boise Foothills Initiative, putting together a complicated land exchange for the Idaho Foundation for Parks and Lands or fundraising for the Girl Scouts. He is fond of quoting the remark attributed to General George C. Marshall, 'It is amazing what you can accomplish if you let other people take the credit.'" – Dean J. (Joe) Miller