

**Press Release:
December 2, 2009**

The Omaha law firm of Gross & Welch is pleased to announce the induction of Michael W. Pirtle as a 2009 Fellow of the Nebraska State Bar Foundation.

The prestigious honor of being named a Fellow of the Nebraska State Bar Association is annually bestowed upon 30 lawyers who meet the foundation's guidelines of integrity and character, dedication to improving the administration of justice, recognition as a leader of the legal profession by colleagues, financial support of the foundation, and geographical representation.

Mr. Pirtle graduated from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 1978 and earned his Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Midland Lutheran College in 1975. His practice is concentrated in the areas of civil litigation, mediation and insurance law. Mr. Pirtle is also a member of the Nebraska State Bar Association, serving as the Chair of the House of Delegates in 2007-08, the Omaha Bar Association, Nebraska Defense Counsel Association, Nebraska Association of Trial Attorneys and the Order of Barristers.

The law firm of Gross & Welch was founded in 1927 by Daniel J. Gross and is located in Omaha, Nebraska. The firm includes the following practice areas: civil litigation, business law, insurance law, employment law, estate planning and probate, real estate, and workers' compensation; representing clients throughout the states of Nebraska, Iowa and South Dakota.

This press release is for immediate dissemination. We would appreciate it if you would publish this in your publication with Mr. Pirtle's photo attached. If you have any further questions, please contact Keegan Stein, Communications, or Jennifer Colwell, Administrator, at the Gross & Welch law firm, (402) 392-1500. Ms. Stein's email is: kstein@grosswelch.com; Ms. Colwell's email is: jcolwell@grosswelch.com.