

FOR RELEASE  
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It is with great pleasure that the Legal Aid Alberta (LAA) Board of Directors announces the appointment of **Deborah A. Miller** as the new Senior Counsel for the Family Law Office effective Dec. 19, 2007.

After conducting an extensive search, LAA's Board of Directors believes it has chosen an exceptional leader who will represent the best interest of LAA's Family Law Office clients, and work towards LAA's efforts to provide a continuum of innovative and cost effective legal services for clients throughout Alberta.

Deborah joins Legal Aid Alberta with over 20 years of extensive experience in family law. She is currently an independent practitioner with Barr Picard where her practice is restricted to family law and estate litigation. Her commitment to assisting Albertans in need has been demonstrated through her volunteer involvement as a counselor for the Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton, legal advisor for WIN House Battered Women's shelter, founding member and board member of Safe Place Battered Women's Shelter; and involvement with several other organizations such as United Way, Alberta Council of Women's Shelters and the Legal Education Society of Alberta.

The LAA Board of Directors is confident that under Deborah's leadership, the Family Law Office will continue to provide outstanding legal services and support services to resolve LAA clients' family law problems.

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#### **About The Family Law Office**

The Family Law Office (FLO) became a permanent Legal Aid Alberta program in September 2004, providing family law legal services through salaried staff lawyers. FLO has offices in Edmonton and Calgary but delivers service to areas outside of these urban centres at the request of specific regional offices. Due to the high demand for family law legal services, the FLO offices are able to provide services to approximately one half of all of the legal aid clients requesting family law services in Edmonton and Calgary.

The Family Law Office operates under the supervision of a Senior Counsel who is hired by and reports to the Legal Aid Alberta Board of Directors. An associate Senior Counsel in each city is responsible for the day to day operations of their respective offices. Staff lawyers in each office provide the legal services and are assisted in doing so by legal assistants and Family Resource Facilitators, staff who work directly with clients to develop plans to resolve personal and family issues in the context of their litigation. For more information about the services offered by the Family Law Office please visit: [www.familylawoffice.legalaid.ab.ca](http://www.familylawoffice.legalaid.ab.ca)

**About Legal Aid Alberta**

Legal Aid in Alberta was officially established on July 1, 1970 by an agreement between the Law Society of Alberta and the provincial Attorney General to deal with both criminal and civil matters. Our mission is to provide a continuum of innovative and cost effective legal services for people in need throughout Alberta. For more information about Legal Aid Alberta and its many services please visit [www.legalaid.ab.ca](http://www.legalaid.ab.ca)