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Williams Mullen and The Keelen Group Announce Creation of Legal and Federal Legislative Group

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WASHINGTON, D.C. – Williams Mullen announces that it has teamed with The Keelen Group, LLC, a federal consulting firm, to deliver comprehensive legal and federal legislative solutions to its clients. Based in the law firm's Washington, D.C. office, **Williams Mullen/Keelen Group** is a bipartisan team of attorneys and lobbyists that identifies and pursues opportunities for clients through legislative and political advocacy.

"This alliance strengthens our clients' abilities to meet their business objectives," said Jerry W. Kilgore, chair of Williams Mullen's Government Relations Practice. "We can advise on strategies within the legal framework or on shaping federal policy to suit their particular needs."

The Keelen Group is a prominent Washington, D.C. lobby firm founded by Matthew B. Keelen. Previously, Mr. Keelen had served as the president of Valis & Keelen, LLC. During his tenure, the company experienced unprecedented growth and expanded the range of clients to include the medical and labor communities. He was named one of the top 50 lobbyists in Washington, D.C. by The Hill in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

"We are excited by the advantages this alliance brings to both Williams Mullen and The Keelen Group clients," said Matt Keelen. "The economic climate and change in Washington's political landscape create new opportunities for companies with the right advocacy strategies."

Joining Mr. Keelen are Michael J. Falencki and Aimee Nichols. Mr. Falencki joined The Keelen Group as vice president & COO after four and a half years on Capitol Hill working for Congressman Sam Graves (R-MO-06), leaving as the congressman's deputy chief of staff. Since joining The Keelen Group, Mr. Falencki has spearheaded policy, legislative, and communications strategies for a host of clients, including AT&T, The Society of the Plastics Industry, The Property Casualty Insurers Association of America, Archer Daniels Midland, The American Council of Engineering Companies, and the Building and Construction Trades Department of the AFL-CIO. Mr. Falencki also has provided strategic consulting services for transportation infrastructure projects and business development services.

Aimee Nichols brings a diverse background in political fundraising and advocacy representation. As a senior account executive at The Keelen Group, Ms. Nichols promotes a variety of legislative issues to members of Congress and the executive branch.

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