

JEFF HURSH AND TRACI SMITH NAMED 2009 “40 UNDER 40”

*Fourth annual event recognized significant contributions of
Southern Arizona’s young leaders*

TUCSON, AZ (October 16 2009)—Snell & Wilmer attorneys Jeff Hursh and Traci Smith are among 40 young leaders described by the *Arizona Daily Star* as “the region’s best hope to reach its potential.” The group was honored before a record crowd at a breakfast awards ceremony on October 15 at the Doubletree Reid Park hotel in Tucson.

Smith and Hursh were selected from a field of more than 200 nominees by a panel of community members that included economic development and not-for-profit executives and past “40 Under 40” honorees.

Jeff Hursh was nominated by John Furlong of the State Bar of Arizona for his year-long effort to secure clear title to a downtown Tucson property that is now the State Bar’s Southern Arizona office, and also by Jean Baruch, founder and Executive Director of the Beads of Courage organization. Baruch said in her nomination that “Through Jeff’s commitment to and support of our organization, we have grown significantly in our ability to serve children coping with serious illness. In just two years, with his guidance and legal counsel, we went from providing our programs in 20 children’s hospitals to over 55 children’s hospitals across the United States. Additionally, in the last year Jeff assisted with negotiations that allowed Beads of Courage to establish our Programs in New Zealand and Japan.”

Describing Traci Smith, Liz McMahon, Director of Development at Catholic Community Services of Southern Arizona, Inc. said, “You only have to meet Traci once to know that she is both a natural leader and someone who is driven to achieve the goals she sets. She is intelligent, dynamic, charismatic and a great deal of fun. She never hesitates to step up to a leadership role and she always delivers.” McMahon continued, “While working in this demanding career, Traci also makes the time to be personally involved with several not-for-profit organizations striving to improve the quality of life of those in need in our community.” Smith was also nominated by Mich Coker, a colleague at the firm and member of the 40 Under 40 Class of 2006.

The 2009 finalists, 40 Under 40 honorees from prior years, judges and supporters of the event were also feted at a cocktail reception at The Lodge on the Desert, where they received congratulations from Jon Saffer, speaking on behalf of the firm.

About Snell & Wilmer L.L.P.

Founded in 1938, Snell & Wilmer is a full-service business law firm with more than 400 attorneys practicing in eight offices throughout the western United States and in Mexico, including Tucson and Phoenix, Arizona; Los Angeles and Orange County, California; Denver, Colorado; Las Vegas, Nevada; Los Cabos, Mexico; and Salt Lake City, Utah. The firm represents clients ranging from large, publicly traded corporations to small businesses, individuals and entrepreneurs. For more information, visit www.swlaw.com.