

**SNELL & WILMER ATTORNEY MICHAEL LIBURDI HONORED BY STATE BAR  
WITH PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR CONVENTION SEMINAR**

**PHOENIX (June 21, 2013)** – Snell & Wilmer is pleased to announce that Michael Liburdi, an associate in the Phoenix office, was selected to receive the Presidential Award for his seminar, *Constitutional Policy and Legislation in the Era of Initiative*, at the State Bar of Arizona’s Annual Convention.

The Presidential Award Program, designed to give special recognition to seminars anticipated to be of superior quality, honored nine out of more than 40 seminars at the convention. The criteria to be considered for the subcommittee’s recommendation included the breadth of the seminar’s appeal to bar members, the use of diverse panels of speakers, co-sponsorship between Bar entities and compliance with guidelines established by the Convention Committee.

The Bar’s annual Convention strives to educate, inspire, bring colleagues together, and support the wider community. The Convention pursues the shared goal of delivering programs and speakers most relevant to the practice needs and professional aspirations of attendees. The 2013 Convention was held at the Arizona Biltmore Resort and Spa June 19-21 with the theme *Serving Justice*. The State Bar of Arizona is a non-profit organization that operates under the supervision of the Arizona Supreme Court.

Liburdi’s seminar focused on the initiative process that enables citizens to propose and enact statutes or constitutional amendments. Since this form of ballot measure serves as an alternative to the enactments of elected representatives, and sometimes as a direct check on legislatures, it has found increasing support across the political spectrum as a necessary component of the system of checks and balances. The interactive, case study-focused program, designed to encourage discussion on matters of public importance, gave attendees the opportunity to hear from a panel of authorities.

At Snell & Wilmer, Liburdi focuses his practice on healthcare litigation, commercial litigation, government relations and election law. He has extensive experience in complex commercial litigation disputes that includes antitrust, securities, breach of contract and professional negligence actions. His election law practice includes advising candidates and initiative committees on matters ranging from constitutional law, campaign finance law compliance, election law complaints and initiative drafting. Liburdi has served as a staff attorney in the litigation department of the Federal Election Commission’s office of the general counsel, where he worked on litigation arising out of the Federal Election Campaign Act and the Presidential Primary Matching Payment Account Act. He teaches a course at the Sandra Day O’Connor College of Law on impeachment and post-Watergate reforms such as federal and state campaign finance laws, independent counsel and special prosecutor procedures, and other governmental reforms. In addition, he frequently speaks on political law topics such as campaign finance law and impeachment.

**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 nine locations throughout the western United States and in Mexico, including Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona; Los Angeles and Orange County, California; Denver, Colorado; Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada; Salt Lake City, Utah; and Los Cabos, Mexico. The firm represents clients ranging from large, publicly traded corporations to small businesses, individuals and entrepreneurs. For more information, visit [www.swlaw.com](http://www.swlaw.com).