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## Partner Curtis M. Leonard Joins Pacifica Law Group's Education & School Districts Practice

Seattle—<u>Pacifica Law Group</u> is pleased to announce that <u>Curtis M. Leonard</u> has joined the firm as a partner in the education and school districts practice group.

Curtis brings an established practice representing school districts in Washington State on a variety of school law issues. He assists school district clients in the areas of employment, employee misconduct investigations, employee discipline, student and teacher rights, board governance, public disclosure and open public meetings, and special education. His practice supplements Pacifica's existing service to public school districts throughout Washington.

"We are very excited to welcome Curtis to Pacifica Law Group. His depth of experience representing school districts, including his expertise in employment matters, will be a valuable addition to our already-strong school districts team and to our clients," said Gerry Johnson, managing partner of Pacifica Law Group.

Denise Stiffarm, the practice group leader for the education and school districts group, echoed Gerry's enthusiasm, "The school districts group is very pleased to welcome Curtis. His skill set augments that of our existing team and provides the group with even more depth in servicing the various needs of our school district clients."

Prior to joining Pacifica, Curtis was a partner with another Seattle-based law firm. He previously was the Director of Human Resources and Legal Affairs for the Auburn School District, representing the District on a variety of complex matters involving school district operations.

Curtis received his B.A. from Brigham Young University and his J.D., *cum laude* from American University, Washington College of Law.

Pacifica Law Group LLP is a law firm committed to serving public and private clients in the Pacific Northwest with focused and sophisticated talent, intellect, creativity and unwavering integrity. The firm helps clients address their most pressing needs with a range of legal services, including appellate and civil litigation, constitutional law, construction law, education and school districts law, municipal law, non-profit law, politics and policy, public financing, public/private project counseling and real estate law. Representative clients include Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Co., City of Seattle, Pike Place Market, Port of Seattle, Seattle Art Museum, Sound Transit, Teachers Insurance & Annuity Association, Washington State Housing Finance Commission, Woodland Park Zoo and numerous other cities, counties, municipalities, public utility districts, public and private companies, school districts and universities.