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FORMER USTR GENERAL COUNSEL JOINS WILMER, CUTLER & PICKERING

July 23, 2001 (Washington, D.C.) -- Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering ("WCP") announces that Robert T. Novick, formerly General Counsel in the Office of the United States Trade Representative, has joined the Firm as a partner resident in the Washington, D.C. office. Along with Ambassador Charlene Barshefsky, who also joined the Firm today as a partner, Mr. Novick will represent clients on international business, investment, regulatory, and dispute resolution matters.

William J. Perlstein, Chairman of WCP's Management Committee commented: "Bob's reputation as a master in grappling with difficult policy and legal issues, his understanding of how these issues get resolved in Washington and other government centers, and his experience in international negotiations, will benefit our clients tremendously. We are excited that Bob and Charlene have decided to join us."

Mr. Novick served as General Counsel in the Office of the USTR from 1999 to 2001. He was a member of the senior team responsible for strategic direction and development and implementation of the Administration's trade policy. Mr. Novick was a principal negotiator of the U.S.-China market-opening agreement, oversaw the U.S. participation in the multilateral negotiations on China's accession to the WTO, and was central to the Administration's successful PNTR effort. In addition to leading negotiations with China, Mr. Novick led negotiations on legal and policy issues with, among others, the EU, Japan, and Australia.

As General Counsel, he was responsible for establishing and implementing the Administration's litigation priorities, strategy and settlement positions in WTO and NAFTA dispute resolution, as well as under bilateral agreements. Mr. Novick also was responsible for responding to Congressional Committee, GAO and similar investigations. Also during his tenure, he served as a Commissioner on the 19-member *Advisory Commission on Electronic Commerce* charged with providing recommendations to Congress on e-commerce tax and tariff issues.

Prior to serving as General Counsel, Mr. Novick was Counselor to the USTR, acting as the principal advisor to the USTR on certain trade negotiations and legislative and other policy/legal issues. In that capacity, he coordinated USTR's legal, policy, and outreach strategy regarding presidential legislative initiatives, including "fast track" negotiating authority, and coordinated the NAFTA 3-year review. Prior to entering public service, Mr. Novick was a partner in the Washington, D.C. firm of Steptoe & Johnson, where his practice concentrated on international trade, investment, and policy matters.

Mr. Novick received his law degree in 1983 from the American University, Washington College of Law, where he served as the Executive Editor of the Law Review. He received his B.A. from Bucknell University in 1980.

Wilmer, Cutler & Pickering is an international law firm with offices in Washington, D.C., New York, Baltimore, Northern Virginia, London, Brussels, and Berlin. The firm has about 450 lawyers engaged in a broad practice spanning the full range of corporate matters, regulatory work, complex civil and criminal litigation, cross-border transactions, and international arbitration.