

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 22, 2007

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**FDLI's FEB. 27 COLLOQUIUM ON ACCESS TO UNAPPROVED DRUGS
TAKES PLACE TWO DAYS BEFORE LANDMARK COURT HEARING**

***Whose Life Is It, Anyway?* Addresses Impact of Abigail Alliance Case**

Should terminally ill patients be allowed access to drugs not approved by the Food and Drug Administration?

That's the question a panel of experts will debate at a watershed Colloquium, *Whose Life Is It, Anyway?*, sponsored by the Food and Drug Law Institute (FDLI), Feb. 27, 2007, in Washington, D.C.

The meeting takes place just two days before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia revisits its May 2006 decision in *Abigail Alliance for Better Access to Developmental Drugs v. von Eschenbach*. The court had ruled that terminally ill, mentally competent adults, with no reasonable alternative to government-approved treatment options, have a constitutional right to access potentially life-saving drugs. The decision struck an unprecedented blow against the drug approval system, according to FDA, and the Supreme Court may eventually decide the matter.

The Colloquium will include interactive audience and panel discussions on several important aspects of the decision, including constitutionality, scope, FDA responsibility, ethical considerations, impact on clinical trials, and liability and enforcement.

The panel includes:

Scott Ballenger, a partner at Latham & Watkins LLP, who represents Abigail Alliance;
Arthur Caplan, chair of the Department of Medical Ethics and director of the Center for Bioethics at the University of Pennsylvania;

Richard Cooper, a partner at Williams & Connolly, and former FDA general counsel;
Mark D. Gately, a partner at Hogan & Hartson, who was lead counsel in *Abney v. Amgen Inc.* and *Suthers v. Amgen*.

Scott Gottlieb, resident fellow at American Enterprise Institute, and former deputy commissioner for medical and scientific Affairs at FDA;

Francis Palumbo, professor and executive director of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy Center on Drugs and Public Policy; and

David C. Welch, founder of 38 Lemon (www.38lemon.com), an organization promoting brain cancer awareness from a patient's perspective.

All registrants will receive a copy of FDLI Colloquium Series White Paper #1: *Whose Life Is It, Anyway? Abigail Alliance at the Crossroads*. The White Paper also will be available for purchase after the Colloquium for those unable to attend the meeting.

To register, visit <http://fdli.org> or call (800) 956-6923 or (202) 371-1420.

Media: To register, or to find out more about the conference, contact Michael Levin-Epstein, Editor-in-Chief, FDLI, (202) 222-0897; mdl@fdli.org.

Founded in 1949, FDLI publishes the award-winning, peer-reviewed *Food and Drug Law Journal*; the bimonthly magazine *Update*; *FDA Directory*; and dozens of books and publications for attorneys, regulatory affairs practitioners, scientists, health care professionals, government employees and marketers in the food and drug field.