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NEWS RELEASE For Immediate Release

Nutter hosts, participates in training for pro bono legal work with veterans

Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program provides legal support for veterans

Boston, MA – On October 26th, the law firm Nutter McClennen & Fish hosted and participated in a regional training program to prepare attorneys to provide pro bono services to veterans seeking to bring benefit claims appeals before the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. The training program was provided by the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program of Washington, D.C. through coordination with Nutter's Pro Bono Committee.

"We are proud to host this very important program that provides veterans with the legal help they need to fully access the benefits they've earned by serving our country," said David C. Henderson, a partner at Nutter, graduate of the US Air Force Academy, and former Air Force judge advocate. "This program engages attorneys in meaningful pro bono work while exposing them to direct experience in rigorous litigation that they can apply to other pro bono work as well as their practice."

The Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program was created in 1992 to deal with the large pro se rate at the Veterans Court. The program provides pro bono legal services to veterans and those entitled to VA benefits who are seeking to appeal denials of benefit claims. The program screens cases and pro bono representation is provided in cases with merit. In order for attorneys to provide their pro bono services to veterans in the program, they must undergo a full-day training. The program has trained approximately 2,800 attorneys who have accepted more than 3,600 cases.

"We are grateful to Nutter and the other firms in the region that give their attorneys the time to train for some of the most important pro bono work of their careers," said Louis George, director of education and outreach for the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program. "The more attorneys we bring into the program, the more veterans we can help get access to the benefits they need and are entitled to for serving our country."

The October 26 training conducted at Nutter attracted many attorneys from the New England area. Nutter had fourteen attorneys participating. The Nutter pro bono committee coordinated with Boston University School of Law to include law students in the training. Cases for the veterans program are taken in by the Veterans Consortium (not by Nutter) and, after initial

screening, are referred out to participating law firms. The Veterans Consortium can be reached at http://www.vetsprobono.net/contact-form/.

For more information on the Veterans Consortium Pro Bono Program please go to <u>vetsprobono.org</u>.

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About Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP

Nutter McClennen & Fish LLP (<u>www.nutter.com</u>) is a leading Boston law firm with a 130-year tradition of pro bono work.