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John J. Maalouf

Ranked As One Of The Top 10

International Trade & Finance Lawyers

In The United States - 2011

New York, New York – May 5, 2011 – Maalouf Ashford & Talbot, LLP, one of the world's leading international trade and finance law firms, today announced that John J. Maalouf, Senior Partner of the Firm, has for the sixth consecutive year been ranked as one of the Top 10 International Trade & Finance Lawyers in the U.S. by the *United States Lawyer Rankings*.

About The U.S. Lawyer Rankings

United States Lawyer Rankings, the definitive guide to legal excellence in the U.S., was established in order to identify the Nation's Top 10 lawyers in each of 12 different practice areas. Lawyers are nominated by corporate general counsels, judges, and fellow practitioners, however, a lawyer cannot self-nominate, and a law firm is prohibited from nominating their own lawyers. In determining the ratings, the United States Lawyer Rankings examines general legal abilities and knowledge, oral advocacy skills, negotiating skills and the ability to develop creative solutions. Lawyers must also meet the highest degree of ethical standards in order to be included in a Top 10 List. *United States Lawyer Rankings* does not accept payments of any kind from lawyers or law firms.

The *United States Lawyer Rankings* can be viewed at:

www.UnitedStatesLawyerRankings.com

About John J. Maalouf

John J. Maalouf, Senior Partner of Maalouf Ashford & Talbot, is an internationally recognized expert in the areas of international trade and finance, business, oil & gas, corporate and banking law. Mr. Maalouf has represented clients throughout the world, including the U.S., China, Middle-East, EU, Japan, India, Africa, Australia, Russia and South America in complex matters involving international trade & finance, mergers & acquisitions, public offerings, international banking, private equity and international oil, gas, coal and energy transactions. John has been ranked among the Top 10 International Trade & Finance Lawyers in the United States for the past six years in a row due to his commitment to excellence and outstanding client service in the areas of international business law. John is also co-author of the book: "Inside the Minds: Best Practices for Mergers & Acquisitions in China" 2011, published by Thomson West, the world's most respected name in legal publishing.

About Maalouf Ashford & Talbot

Maalouf Ashford & Talbot, LLP is an international financial services law firm based in New York City with offices in London, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Riyadh and Boston. Maalouf Ashford & Talbot has recently been named "Oil & Gas Law Firm of the Year" 2010 by Corporate International Magazine in New York.

The Firm's attorneys provide representation across the following key areas of the law: International Trade & Finance, Corporate, Energy, Oil & Gas Law, Securities, Mergers & Acquisitions, Private Equity and Investment Funds. Combining a dedication to excellence with a commitment to superior client service, Maalouf Ashford & Talbot provides clients with a breadth and depth of expertise uniquely suited to their legal needs. For more information, please visit: www.maaloufashford.com