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John J. Maalouf

Ranked As One Of The Top 10

International Trade & Finance Lawyers

In The United States - 2013

New York, New York – April 30, 2013 – 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 eighth consecutive year been ranked as one of the Top 10 International Trade & Finance Lawyers in the U.S. by the *United States Lawyer Rankings*. The *United States Lawyer Rankings* can be viewed at:

www.UnitedStatesLawyerRankings.com

About Maalouf Ashford & Talbot

The Firm has been named “Law Firm of the Year” in the United States in an unprecedented 16 separate categories including:

International Finance Law Firm of the Year

Energy (Oil & Gas) Law Firm of the Year

Corporate Law Firm of the Year

M&A Law Firm of the Year

Banking Law Firm of the Year

Private Equity Law Firm of the Year

Project Finance Law Firm of the Year

Capital Markets Law Firm of the Year

Asset Finance Law Firm of the Year

Cross Border Law Firm of the Year

Shipping & Maritime Law Firm of the Year

Antitrust Law Firm of the Year

Tax Law Firm of the Year

Sharia Law Firm of the Year

Full Service Law Firm of the Year, and

Most Trusted Law Firm of the Year

With offices in financial centers worldwide including: New York City, London, Hong Kong, Riyadh, Shanghai, Sao Paulo and Beirut, Maalouf Ashford & Talbot remains at the forefront of the legal profession in structuring complex international business transactions, representing clients in numerous high-profile matters involving international oil & gas deals, mergers and acquisitions, IPO's, private equity, project finance, coal, iron ore, and mining deals, and cross-border transactions worldwide.

Maalouf Ashford represents some of the world's most respected companies in connection with their complex and sophisticated international business transactions.

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 has been ranked as one of the Top 10 International Trade & Finance Lawyers in the U.S. by the United States Lawyer Rankings for the past eight consecutive years. Mr. Maalouf is an internationally recognized expert in the areas of international business law, oil gas & energy law and banking & finance law. Mr. Maalouf has represented clients throughout the world, including the U.S., Middle-East, China, EU, Japan, India, 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.

In addition, John is co-author of the book: "Inside the Minds: Best Practices for Mergers & Acquisitions in China", published by Thomson West, the world's most respected name in legal publishing.

For more information, please visit: www.maaloufashford.com