

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## **Erika E. Cole, The Church Attorney to Launch Church and Faith-Based Organization Practice at Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLP**

July 11, 2017 - Baltimore—Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLP announced today that Erika E. Cole, a preeminent non-profit organization attorney with a significant reputation among churches and faith-based organizations, has joined the firm as a Partner as of July 1, 2017. Mrs. Cole is one of only a handful of attorneys in the U.S. practicing exclusively in the area of church law. Over the course of the past 12 years, she has built a national reputation as The Church Attorney®.

Joining Mrs. Cole from the church law practice at her previous firm, The Law Offices of Erika E. Cole, LLC, are Counsel Candie C. Deming and Associate Counsel Maame A. Amponsah.

“We are delighted to welcome Erika and her team to the firm,” said Managing Partner Martin Fletcher. “Her deep understanding of church communities, her reputation as one of the leading church law experts in the country, and the sheer scope of her network in this sector mark the beginning of what we believe will be an important new practice area for the firm.”

Mrs. Cole’s client base includes national denominations representing hundreds and sometimes thousands of individual churches. She focuses on the full range of legal issues confronting faith-based organizations.

“I am excited to join Whiteford,” said Mrs. Cole, “which shares my deep commitment to value-based client relationships. At the same time, given the firm’s full range of legal services and administrative support, I see genuine efficiencies for my clients. It is an exceptional opportunity both to serve my existing clients and to expand my work as The Church Attorney®, to which I am continually devoted.”

***About Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLP:*** *The over 160 attorneys at Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLP are dedicated to offering a comprehensive range of for-profit and non-profit law and litigation service to regional, national and international clients. We deliver sophisticated, cost-effective legal services to innovative start-ups, middle market companies and global enterprises from our twelve offices in Maryland, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Kentucky, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Virginia. For more information, please visit our website at [www.wtplaw.com](http://www.wtplaw.com).*