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**Dallas law firm Waters & Kraus donates \$250,000, continues to support research of rare lung cancer at UT Southwestern**

DALLAS – Oct. 14, 2010 – Dallas law firm Waters & Kraus LLP has donated \$250,000 to further support the lung-cancer treatment and research program it established four years ago at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

The gift, which was made through St. Paul Medical Foundation, will support the Mesothelioma Treatment and Research Program established with a previous gift from the firm. The program focuses on a rare cancer of the lung lining linked to asbestos exposure and is led by Dr. Michael DiMaio, associate professor of cardiovascular and thoracic surgery.

“After our first gift, we became more impressed than ever with the fine work of Dr. DiMaio and his team in treating victims of this deadly disease,” said Peter Kraus, managing partner of Waters & Kraus, whose firm specializes in mesothelioma cases. “We wanted to help ensure that the doctors at UT Southwestern had the resources and profile to remain among the country’s foremost leaders in mesothelioma research and treatment. We’re proud to be able to encourage their efforts.”

Although asbestos – a toxic, fibrous material that was once commonly used in construction – has not been widely used since 1980, the number of people diagnosed with mesothelioma is steady. The National Cancer Institute estimates that 2,000 cases were reported among the nearly 219,500 instances of lung cancer diagnosed in 2009. Prolonging and improving the quality of life for those afflicted with the disease are the primary goals of Dr. DiMaio and his team.

“Mesothelioma has a notoriously poor prognosis, but in a few short years we have begun to realize significant improvements in the detection and treatment of this disease,” said Dr. DiMaio. “This continued funding will enable us to further explore new therapies and help us to find better ways to alleviate the suffering of those battling the disease. I’m very thankful for the loyalty of Peter Kraus and his firm, whose confidence in our research has been a source of great inspiration.”

Mr. Kraus, who specializes in toxic tort and civil litigation, earned his law degree from the UT School of Law in 1985. He has served on the board of St. Paul Medical Foundation since

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2002 and served as its chairman from 2006 to 2008. Mr. Kraus and his firm also are longtime supporters of the Transplant Tee, an annual golf tournament that benefits the Heart, Lung and Vascular Programs at UT Southwestern.

“Waters & Kraus has been a loyal and generous supporter of UT Southwestern for many years, and the firm’s latest contribution – to advance our growing program in mesothelioma research – is of special importance,” said Dr. Daniel K. Podolsky, president of UT Southwestern. “The important lines of research that will benefit from the generosity of Mr. Kraus and his team will constitute a wonderful legacy for the firm’s priorities.”

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