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**Rusty Kelley, friends give \$100,000 to establish
professorship in medical science at UT Southwestern**

DALLAS – May 11, 2006 – Friends and admirers of renowned Texas lobbyist Russell T. “Rusty” Kelley have established a professorship in medical science in his honor at UT Southwestern Medical Center.

Mr. Kelley, who has for decades ranked among the state’s most influential government liaisons, has made significant financial donations to UT Southwestern over the years, including \$45,000 toward the medical center’s *Innovations in Medicine* campaign. Upon hearing of his gifts, several of his friends made additional contributions to bring the sums to the level of a \$100,000 endowment. The Rusty Kelley Professorship in Medical Science will support research and clinical care programs at the medical center.

“Rusty Kelley has long been a loyal friend to UT Southwestern and to the field of medicine,” said Dr. Kern Wildenthal, president of UT Southwestern. “Everyone who knows him regards Rusty with enormous respect and affection, so it is with great pride that we are able to create this permanent professorship bearing his name.”

Mr. Kelley, a native of Stamford, is a partner and managing director of Public Strategies, where he oversees the Governmental Affairs Division in Texas. In 1981 he founded the Independent Lobby Firm, which he owned and operated until 2000. He also has served as executive assistant to the speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, chief sergeant-at-arms of the Texas House, and vice president of the Texas Savings and Loan League.

He has been named among the state’s top lobbyists by *Texas Monthly*, the *Austin Chronicle*, *Capitol Inside* and others, and his successes – including being instrumental in the passage of Texas’ seatbelt law – have been featured in numerous publications.

“I have a long history with UT Southwestern, and seeing that the medical center prospers is one of my great passions,” said Mr. Kelley. “I credit the staff at UT Southwestern with saving my father’s life years ago, and I believe wholeheartedly in the quality of the institution itself. I’m very grateful for this wonderful honor, and feel extremely proud to be linked to the medical center in this way.”

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