



For Immediate Release

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**Special Needs Alliance President Appointed as Delegate to
National Summit on Disability Policy**

February 25, 2010 (TUCSON, Ariz) Special Needs Alliance president, Bridget O'Brien Swartz, has been appointed as a delegate to the National Summit on Disability Policy. The summit is being sponsored by the National Council on Disability, and will convene on July 26-27, 2010 in Washington, D.C. The goal of the summit is to craft policy recommendations for the future on topics including civil rights, employment, education, health care, transportation, housing, telecommunications and technology, homeland security, and disability statistics and data.

Established by Congress as an independent federal agency, the National Council on Disability promotes policies and programs that empower individuals with disabilities to achieve economic self-sufficiency, independent living, and inclusion and integration into all aspects of society. To carry out this mandate, the Council gathers public and stakeholder input, reviews and evaluates federal programs and legislation, and provides the President, Congress, and federal agencies with advice and recommendations. The Council considered the credentials of more than 1,400 delegate candidates, and ultimately appointed 300 delegates

“I am honored to join with the nation’s leading thinkers in the disability arena to determine how best we can serve the special needs community,” said Swartz. “Individuals with disabilities, their families, as well as the professionals who represent them, face a host of unique legal issues and other challenges unfamiliar to most. I think the Special Needs Alliance perspective will be a valuable addition to the summit.”

Swartz’s law office in Phoenix, Arizona focuses on the financial and legal needs of minor children with disabilities and adults with disabilities under age 65, with an emphasis on public benefits eligibility issues. She is a Specialist in Estate & Trust Law, certified by the State Bar of Arizona and has been certified as an Elder Law Attorney by the National Elder Law Foundation (NELF).

About the Special Needs Alliance:

The Special Needs Alliance (SNA) is a national, not for profit organization of attorneys dedicated to the practice of disability and public benefits law. Individuals with disabilities, their families and their advisors rely on the SNA to connect them with nearby attorneys who focus their practices in the disability law arena. SNA membership is based on a combination of relevant legal experience in the disability and elder law fields, direct family experience with disability, active participation with national, state and local disability advocacy organizations, and professional reputation. The majority have been certified as Elder Law Attorneys (CELAs) by the National Elder Law Foundation, the certifying entity for the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (NAELA).

For more information about the Special Needs Alliance, or to locate a member attorney in your area, visit www.specialneedsalliance.org or call 1-877-572-8472.

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