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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 19, 2011

Freeport Residents Open New Law Firm In “Balicki house” In Sarver, Pennsylvania.

Sarver, Pennsylvania. Local Freeport residents, Joseph V. Charlton and Kathleen M. Charlton are pleased to announce the opening of their new law firm, Charlton & Charlton, Inc., Attorneys at Law, in Sarver, PA. Their areas of practice include, but are not limited to: criminal defense, driving under the influence (DUI), civil litigation, personal injury, defective products, wills, probate, estate planning, business representation, property issues, and oil and gas matters.

Joe Charlton is an experienced criminal defense attorney and has defended cases all over Western Pennsylvania, including Butler, Armstrong, Westmoreland, Allegheny, and Mercer counties. He has defended federal criminal cases in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania and handles a high volume of DUI cases.

Joe graduated in 1998 from Freeport Area High School, where he finished at the top of his class. He attended Geneva College, where he earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science, with a minor in Economics, graduating in 2002 with honors. He attended University of Pittsburgh School of Law, graduating in 2005. He practiced as an associate at a Butler law firm from 2005 to 2010 prior to opening Charlton & Charlton. Joe has been named a 2010 “Rising Star” in the area of Criminal Defense by Pennsylvania Super Lawyers, a prestigious distinction that only 2.5% of lawyers in Pennsylvania receive.

Katie (Foust) Charlton will be prosecuting criminal cases as a part-time Assistant District Attorney in Armstrong County. Prior to becoming an Assistant District Attorney in January, Katie was a successful criminal defense attorney. She defended cases in numerous counties including Butler, Armstrong, Allegheny, and Mercer counties. Katie also practices in the area of civil litigation, personal injury litigation and employment discrimination on both a state and federal level. She will continue to represent clients in civil litigation with Charlton & Charlton in addition to acting as Assistant District Attorney.

Katie is a 1999 graduate of Leechburg Area High School, where she graduated as valedictorian. She attended New York University, earning her Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism and graduating magna cum laude in 2003. She then attended Duquesne University School of Law, graduating magna cum laude, second in her class, in 2008. While there, she was a member of the national moot court team, and was named The Academy of Trial Lawyers of Allegheny County 44th Annual Gourley Mock Trial Competition First place Advocate in February 2007.

Charlton & Charlton also employs local Freeport residents Audrey Bennett and Shane Sarver. Audrey Bennett is a 2003 graduate of Freeport High School. She attended the Community College of Allegheny County and has her Associate's degree in paralegal studies. Audrey is the Office Manager and Paralegal for Charlton & Charlton. Shane Sarver is a legal intern at Charlton & Charlton. Shane graduated from Freeport High School in 2005 before attending Duquesne University, where he received his bachelor's degree in 2009. Shane currently attends Duquesne University School of Law and is set to graduate in 2012.

On a personal note, Joe and Katie first met in the summer of 2000, but remained friends until they began dating in 2004. They were engaged in 2005 and married in August of 2006. They make their home in Armstrong County and welcomed their daughter, Emma Mae, in July of 2010. These hometown attorneys have opened their new office in the "Balicki house" on South Pike Road, which is a bit of a historical landmark to the residents of Sarver.

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If you'd like more information about their practice, or to schedule an interview with Joe and Katie Charlton, please call at (724) 540-1161 or e-mail at joe@charltonlawyers.com or katie@charltonlawyers.com.