

## **MAPLE LIFE FINANCIAL ADDS FORMER MARYLAND INSURANCE ADMINISTRATION PRINCIPAL COUNSEL TO LEADERSHIP TEAM**

BETHESDA, MD, November 15, 2007—Maple Life Financial is pleased to announce the addition of Kathleen A. Birrane as Senior Vice President and General Counsel.

Kathleen is an AV-rated attorney, the highest rating for an attorney, whose legal career spans more than 20 years. Her expertise encompasses a broad range of areas, including the regulation of the financial and operational activities of insurance related entities; commercial and corporate transactions; insurance producer and broker operations; premium financing arrangements; product design; and risk management and financing.

“Kathleen’s experience in the private and public sectors, coupled with her stature in the regulatory community significantly enhances our organizational capabilities,” said Nate Evans, President and Chief Executive Officer. “Maple Life Financial has always been an industry leader in regulatory and compliance practices, and Kathleen will be a great asset in taking that leadership to a new level.”

Prior to joining Maple Life Financial, Kathleen was an Assistant Attorney General, appointed as Principal Counsel for the Maryland Insurance Administration for five years. In that capacity, she was the primary legal advisor to the Maryland Insurance Commissioner and to all units of the Maryland Insurance Administration. Working with a staff of Assistant Attorneys General, Kathleen’s responsibilities included advising the Attorney General, as well as the administration and legislative committees on federal and state laws relating to insurance and insurance regulation. She represented the Maryland Insurance Commissioner before state and federal courts and administrative tribunals, and served as the administration’s representative on work groups and on several task forces of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

From 1984 through 2002, Kathleen was a principal in the law firm of Kramon & Graham, P.A. While there she concentrated in commercial-, tort- and insurance-related litigation and transactions, state and federal regulatory matters, risk management, coverage disputes, self funding, agent/broker issues, and professional malpractice defense.

Kathleen holds a Juris Doctorate degree with honors from the University of Maryland School of Law.

This addition reflects Maple Life Financial’s continued expansion and commitment to the highest levels of customer service and compliance.