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**WITH DEBATE IN THE FOUNDERS' DNA, MASSEY & GAIL SPONSORS NATIONAL
INAUGURAL URBAN HIGH SCHOOL PUBLIC DEBATE SERIES THIS FALL**

CHICAGO – Massey & Gail LLP, a law firm whose co-founders were high school and college debate rivals before becoming law school classmates and, later, law partners, is proud to be the exclusive presenting sponsor of the inaugural I RESOLVE virtual public debate series that kicks-off this week with high school debates in five cities through November.

Students active in the transformative experience of academic debate will engage with community and civic leaders in in-depth discussions about criminal justice reform and solutions in their respective cities. The National Urban Debate League (NAUDL) series begins this Wednesday, in San Jose, California, and will continue through next month in Los Angeles, Denver, Chicago, and Houston. In each event, NAUDL partners with the local urban debate league.

Massey & Gail's lead sponsorship of I RESOLVE benefits Chicago-based NAUDL's mission to ensure access to debate education and programming for over 10,000 students annually. Local leagues serve under-resourced school districts in 22 cities.

"Competitive academic debate changed the trajectory of our lives. It requires and hones the critical thinking, communication, and collaboration skills critical to us as lawyers and to careers more generally," said Massey & Gail Co-Founders Lenny Gail and Jonathan Massey. Mr. Gail continued, "We are extremely proud of our longtime support of NAUDL. We're excited, as the exclusive presenting sponsor of I RESOLVE, to help students around the country discover their passion for learning and to empower them to succeed through this innovative public debate series."

Mr. Massey (<https://bit.ly/3ja9Plt>) and Mr. Gail (<https://bit.ly/3nQ8eep>) first met as high school debate rivals and competed against each other through college. Mr. Gail and his Dartmouth College teammate won the 1984 National Debate Tournament, while Mr. Massey and his Harvard partner won the national debate championship in 1985. They became Harvard Law School classmates and remained close friends while they pursued separate career paths.

In 2009, they established Massey & Gail, a longtime ambition jointly to practice law. Today, the firm has 20 attorneys with offices in Chicago, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C.

Mr. Gail will deliver opening remarks to begin the series at the outset of the Silicon Valley Urban Debate League's event this Wednesday.

NAUDL's Executive Director Rhonda Haynes agrees with Mr. Gail that the "I RESOLVE" series is an exciting opportunity for debaters across the country. "Our students have unique perspectives regarding the need for criminal justice reform and specific opportunities for meaningful change in their communities. Through their experiences with debate, they develop the skills and knowledge to engage and persuade with purpose."

I RESOLVE's unique format highlights the power of high school debate for a public audience. It will feature local high school debaters offering informed analysis of the most pressing criminal justice problems and solutions in their communities. They will engage with panels of civic and community leaders charged with making the policy decisions debaters have researched. Each two-hour event is an evening designed to restore the public's faith in the great American tradition of debate.

I RESOLVE will take place on the virtual platform Hopin. After Silicon Valley's kick-off, the series will continue with the leagues in Los Angeles on Oct. 27, Denver on Nov. 10, Chicago on Nov. 11, and Houston tentatively on Nov. 17. Details, including registration information, dates and times are available at urbandebate.org/iresolve. The public and members of the media are welcome, but registration is required through NAUDL's website. Students, panelists, and local league staff will be available to provide comments by appointment by contacting NAUDL or the local urban debate league's staff.

Mr. Massey and Mr. Gail are also available for interviews through the media contacts listed below.

About Massey & Gail

Massey & Gail LLP is a 20-attorney law firm with offices in Chicago, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C. Its experienced, senior counselors are fully immersed and directly engaged in providing clients efficient, strategic solutions. For more information, please visit: <https://www.masseygail.com/>

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