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**Robinson & Cole Welcomes AMISTAD America to Firm**

**Hartford** – February 26, 2008 – In celebration of Black History Month, the law firm of Robinson & Cole featured guest speakers from AMISTAD America, Inc. for a program on the Freedom Schooner *Amistad's* first transatlantic voyage.

Clifton E. Graves, Jr., vice president of organizational development & community relations, and Donald George, international multicultural education coordinator, spent the afternoon at the firm discussing the events surrounding Freedom Schooner *Amistad's* first transatlantic voyage.

“Clifton and Donald presented a powerful lecture describing the *Amistad's* amazing journey across the Atlantic Ocean,” comments the firm’s diversity partner James Ray. “To see their passion and enthusiasm towards the AMISTAD Atlantic Freedom Tour was very inspiring for all of us at Robinson & Cole.”

**About AMISTAD America, Inc.**

AMISTAD America, Inc., was created to teach lessons of history, leadership and cooperation through the operation of the reproduction schooner *Amistad* and the management of associated educational programs. The “new” *Amistad* was built at the Mystic Seaport and was launched in March 2000, having visited Hartford and New London. The latest launch took place on June 21, 2007, where the *Amistad* left on its historic journey from its home port of New Haven with a crew that includes professional sailors, volunteers, and college students. It has sailed to Canada, the U.K., Europe and West Africa, and most recently spent two months in Freetown, Sierra Leone. The *Amistad* left Sierra Leone recently and is now continuing its journey, retracing the route of the Atlantic slave trade. The journey will culminate in New York City in time to join the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the Atlantic slave trade.



Left to right: Robinson & Cole associate Jude Francois; Robinson & Cole managing partner Eric Daniels; AMISTAD America's Clifton E. Graves, Jr., vice president of organizational development & community relations and Donald George, international multicultural education coordinator; and Robinson & Cole diversity partner James Ray

Founded in 1845, Robinson & Cole has more than 220 attorneys and over 250 professional staff in eight offices who serve regional, national, and global business clients in traditional practices such as corporate, financial services, intellectual property, utilities, environmental, land use, real estate development, insurance, and litigation. Further information is available at [www.rc.com](http://www.rc.com).

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