20 September 2012

Burford continues UK expansion with new arrivals at ATE arm

London, 20 September – Burford Capital ("Burford"), the world's largest provider of investment capital and risk solutions for litigation, has today announced three new senior hires in its UK After the Event (ATE) insurance arm Firstassist Legal Expenses ("Firstassist"): head of operational underwriting Mike Payne, product development manager Louise Smith and litigation funding manager Mark Thomson.

Mark Thomson joins from UK law firm Freeth Cartwright LLP where he was a Partner within the Commercial Dispute Resolution team. He is noted for his expertise in commercial litigation, professional negligence and insurance work.

Mike Payne has over 20 years' experience in the London insurance market and has a particularly strong background in the legal sector. He worked as Head of Business Development for a large national law firm for some years in order to understand solicitors' perceptions of and requirements from the insurance market.

Louise Smith trained as a solicitor and worked in private practice as a civil and criminal litigator after qualifying. Building on her insights as a litigator, she has since undertaken roles in both claims management and product development and has extensive experience across all areas of the legal expenses market.

Burford continues to attract very high quality talent who believe in the opportunity and the potential of the business and the hires underline the significant progress achieved by Firstassist since being acquired by Burford earlier this year. Burford is using Firstassist's leading product set to create a unique litigation financing and ATE insurance platform with unrivalled scale.

The UK is one of the world's largest litigation markets. Steadily embracing alternative litigation finance and other legal reforms, it has become one of the most hospitable litigation financing environments in the world. Reflecting market growth, Burford Capital recently posted strong interim results, and Firstassist's contribution is already bearing fruit, delivering $3.7m in profit in the first four months.

Commenting on the new appointments, **Firstassist Managing Director Peter Smith** said:

"We are delighted to welcome Mike, Louise and Mark to the team. These are extremely talented individuals who will, doubtless, make a real difference to our business and our clients.

"The UK litigation landscape is changing fast but there is no doubt that the need for greater certainty on costs is here to stay. The demand for a one-stop shop to assist with all aspects of legal expenses insurance and funding is greater than ever and we look forward to helping solicitors and their clients in these exciting and challenging times."

ENDS

Notes to Editors

Contacts: Maria Jennings/Mike McManus, Spada 020 7269 1430

About Firstassist

Firstassist Legal Expenses Insurance Ltd, a leading provider of After the Event (ATE) Insurance has been at the forefront of the UK legal protection market for over 15 years. The company has developed a range of ATE products to help both individuals and businesses with legitimate civil claims to achieve "access to justice" in an affordable way.

Third-Party Funding is a growing market in the UK and provides an alternative means of financing litigation which also provides access to justice.

For more information, please visit http://www.legalexpenses.co.uk/

About Burford

Burford is the world's largest provider of investment capital and risk solutions for litigation.

Burford Capital Limited is a closed-end $300 million investment fund publicly traded on the London Stock Exchange's Alternative Investment Market under the ticker symbol BUR. Burford provides a broad range of corporate finance solutions to lawyers and clients engaged in significant litigation and arbitration around the world. Burford Group Limited serves as the investment adviser to Burford Capital and has an expert team drawn from major law firms and corporations.

For more information about Burford: www.burfordfinance.com