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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Howe Barnes Hoefler & Arnett Adds Three Financial Advisors to Memphis Office**

*February 19, 2009, Chicago, IL-* Howe Barnes Hoefler & Arnett, Inc. announces the hiring of three Financial Advisors in our Memphis office. Joining the firm as Vice Presidents of Private Client Services are Patrick Crowley and C. Christopher Connors both from Morgan Keegan & Company and Michael W. Post from Morgan Stanley.

As a team Mr. Crowley and Mr. Connors work with clients and their families in reaching their financial and estate planning goals, including assisting in the development of exit strategies for business owners, solutions for concentrated equity positions, retirement accumulation and income plans as well as comprehensive investment management strategies. Prior to joining Howe Barnes, Mr. Crowley was employed by Morgan Keegan & Company where he established Planning Services, the firm's estate and financial planning department; the Insurance department; the Morgan Trust Company and worked with individual clients. Mr. Connors was also with Morgan Keegan & Company prior to joining Howe Barnes. As an entrepreneur he was instrumental in founding and managing Secure Data Services, Inc. and Southern Warehouses, Inc., both of which were subsequently sold to national concerns. Mr. Connors is a 1983 graduate of the University of Memphis. Mr. Crowley received his bachelor degree from Florida State University and his J.D. from the University of Memphis College of Law. He also holds the Certified Life Underwriter Designation (CLU).

Mr. Post joins Howe Barnes with over 25 years of experience as a financial advisor. Mr. Post specializes in using proven asset allocation models to help clients achieve their financial goals. He joins Howe Barnes from Morgan Stanley, Inc where he spent the last 15 years. Mike believes in increasing asset diversification through the use of alternative investments and the use of professional money managers. He received his BBA and MBA degrees from Tulane University, New Orleans, LA.

“With the addition of Mr. Crowley, Mr. Connors and Mr. Post to the Memphis office, Howe Barnes yet again expands its efforts in establishing a meaningful private client presence in the Memphis market.” said Ronald Sirt, Sr. V.P. Private Client Services.

Established in 1915, Howe Barnes Hoefler & Arnett, Inc. is a full service brokerage firm headquartered in Chicago, IL with offices in six states throughout the U.S. Through its bank sales and trading, research, investment banking, private equity and asset finance services departments, Howe Barnes specializes in community banks and thrifts. Through its private client services department, the firm provides investment advice and products to both individual and institutional customers. Howe Barnes Hoefler & Arnett is the exclusive provider of capital markets services for the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA). The firm delivers fixed income products and services through a strategic initiative with Vining Sparks IBG, Memphis, Tennessee.

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