

For Immediate Release

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SmithBucklin Names Brad Weaber Executive Vice President, Event Services

*World's largest association management and professional services company
consolidates reporting of its three event management service units*

CHICAGO - January 7, 2010 – SmithBucklin, the world's largest association management and professional services company, today announced that Brad Weaber has been named Executive Vice President, Event Services. The move consolidates reporting of the company's three convention, trade show and event management service units (Convention and Trade Show Services in Chicago and Washington, D.C. and Courtesy Associates in Washington, D.C.) under Event Services. Weaber, a Certified Meeting Professional (CMP), also will continue in his role as President of Courtesy Associates.

"This is a great opportunity for Brad and a natural move that will strengthen SmithBucklin's service delivery to its client organizations by leveraging leadership, operational efficiencies and our company's unmatched purchasing power," said Henry S. Givray, Chairman and CEO. "Our goal is to continually improve productivity and deliver an ever-higher standard of performance to our client organizations, as well as a unified voice to the hospitality and related industries."

A 26-year meetings industry veteran, Weaber joined SmithBucklin in January 2009 as President of Courtesy Associates, a Washington, D.C.-based conference and event management firm that celebrated its 62nd anniversary in 2009 and is owned by SmithBucklin. Prior to joining SmithBucklin, Weaber served as Executive Vice President and Chief Customer Officer for Experient, Inc./Conferon, in Washington, D.C., where he oversaw the sales and account management division. He held numerous leadership positions at Experient during his 18-year tenure. Prior to that, Weaber held a variety of hotel management positions with the Renaissance Hotel in Springfield, Ill.

A graduate of the University of Illinois with a Bachelor of Arts in business management, Weaber was a two-time seated President of the Capital Chapter of the Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA). He currently serves on the Board of Trustees for the PCMA Foundation, the Starwood Customer Advisory Board, the Vancouver Customer Advisory Board and the Las Vegas Customer Forum Board, and is an active member of ASAE & The Center for Association Leadership and the International Association of Exhibitions and Events (IAEE). A resident of Washington, D.C., Weaber is a respected author and contributor to many industry publications and is a featured speaker and panelist at many industry shows.

Lise A. Puckorius, senior vice president, Event Services/Chicago and Cele Fogarty, vice president, Event Services/Washington, D.C., will continue in their existing management

and leadership roles. Puckorius, a 23-year veteran of the event and hospitality industry, is a 10-year veteran of SmithBucklin. Fogarty joined the company in 1989 and has been promoted numerous times prior to her current position.

Leslie Thornton, who joined SmithBucklin in 2003, was recently appointed managing director of Courtesy Associates. In her new role, she is responsible for day-to-day management of Courtesy, including oversight of the service unit's financials, operations and strategic management.

Michael L. Payne, executive vice president, will continue in his role as a thought leader to the hotel and events industry. At SmithBucklin, he also provides direct oversight for the company's Washington, D.C. and St. Louis office operations, government relations and client management, and is responsible for the *SmithBucklin + MCI Worldwide Partnership*, which delivers seamless association and event management services throughout the world. Payne joined SmithBucklin in 1981.

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About SmithBucklin

SmithBucklin is the world's largest association management and professional services company. Founded in 1949, the company provides full-service management and outsourcing services to trade associations, professional societies, technology user groups, corporations, government institutes/agencies and other nonprofit organizations. SmithBucklin offices are located in Chicago, Washington, D.C., St. Louis and St. Paul, Minn. and the *SmithBucklin + MCI Worldwide Partnership* provides client organizations with seamless association and event management services from more than 40 offices throughout the world. The company is 100 percent employee owned. For more information, please visit www.smithbucklin.com or call 1-800-539-9740.