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Blalock Walters Reaches Growth Milestone

October 16, 2008, BRADENTON, Florida – Blalock, Walters, Held & Johnson, P.A., one of Manatee County's oldest law firms, announces that Attorney Brent Hoard has joined the firm. This latest addition establishes Blalock Walters as the largest law firm in Manatee County and the fourth largest firm in the Sarasota/Bradenton market.

"This is a major milestone for Blalock Walters," stated Cliff Walters, Managing Partner of Blalock Walters. "During the recent economic downturn, the firm has remained committed to providing crucial advice and counseling to our clients who in many instances are making the most critical decisions in their lifetime. Our clients need more than just legal advice and Blalock Walters has always prided itself in bringing positive creative solutions to even the most complex issues. Our clients expect and demand the very best".

"The addition of Brent Hoard is just another example of our commitment to providing the very best service to our clients. Brent will increase the number of attorneys in the Corporate Practice Group which continues to expand due to its growth in new clients. We are not focused on being the largest firm, but rather on being the very best for our clients. The addition of Brent will ensure that we accomplish this," commented Robert Blalock, Principal of Blalock Walters.

Brent Hoard practice focus is on general business and corporate matters. Brent earned his B.A. in Economics from Stanford University. While at Stanford, Brent was a starting pitcher on their baseball team. He went on to pitch in the Minnesota Twins organization, and was a member of the Minnesota Twins 40-Man Major League Roster in 2003.. Subsequently, Brent earned his J.D. from Indiana University School of Law – Bloomington. During law school, Brent was awarded the Paul George Jasper Scholarship. He also received a "CALL Excellence for the Future" award. Brent enjoys spending time with his wife Jennifer, as well as family and friends. He is an avid golfer who also enjoys fishing, cooking, and reading.

For more information about Blalock Walters or to arrange an interview, please contact Shelia Longo at 941-351-0024 or email slongo@grapeinc.com. Grapevine Communications is an award-winning advertising, marketing and public relations firm based in Sarasota and serving clients nationwide.

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