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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Breaking Ground Contracting Company Honored as FCBA's Construction Firm of the Year

Jacksonville, FL October 3, 2007 - Breaking Ground Contracting Company, a commercial general contracting firm headquartered in Jacksonville, FL, was recently honored by Jacksonville's First Coast Business Alliance as Construction Firm of the Year. The honor was awarded during FCBA's MEDWeek Celebration (Minority Enterprise Development Week). Since 1983, MEDWeek has been observed throughout the nation, including Jacksonville, with thousands of entrepreneurs participating in workshops, seminars, trade fairs, luncheons, procurement conferences and other activities. Annually, MEDWeek provides a forum for discussion of major issues affecting the growth and development of minority business enterprises. FCBA also pays tribute to small business entrepreneurs by honoring companies in six categories, such as Up and Coming Firm, Service Firm, Woman-Owned Business, Advocate, and Professional Firm of the Year.

Breaking Ground was nominated by the JaxPort Authority and is honored to be named Construction Firm of the Year for 2007. Incorporated in 1997, Mary Tappouni opened Breaking Ground Contracting Company after graduating with dual degrees in Construction Management and Finance from the University of North Florida. With several years of project management experience with JA Jones, she made the decision to pursue entrepreneurship and opened her business. As the company approaches their ten-year anniversary, they are proud to work with clients such as Shands Jacksonville, The City of Jacksonville, Camp Blanding, and several private organizations.

Breaking Ground Contracting Company is active in the First Coast Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors, ABC Women's Council, US Green Building Council, Urban Land Institute, Society for Marketing Professional Services, National Association of Female Executives, Commercial Real Estate Women of Jacksonville, and National Association of Industrial and Office Properties. The company also promotes mentorship through Kesler Mentoring, Junior Achievement, Child Guidance Center, and MaliVai Washington Kids Foundation TNT Program.

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About First Coast Business Alliance

In 2001, the First Coast Business Alliance (formerly known as the Minority Enterprise Development Steering Committee) emerged as a Non-for-Profit organization made up of representatives from various public and private sector organizations. This organization sponsors the First Coast MEDWeek and also awards scholarships to deserving minority students from local schools. FCBA's mission is to uplift and to promote small and minority businesses, and to foster awareness of business opportunities within youth on Florida's First Coast. For more information on First Coast Business Alliance, please visit their website at www.fcbainc.com.

About Breaking Ground Contracting Company

A State-of-Florida certified woman owned business, Breaking Ground Contracting Company is an award-winning, commercial general contractor providing quality construction services to both public and private clients. With demonstrated experience in health and fitness facilities, institutional and government projects, as well as numerous specialty construction projects, Breaking Ground offers clients the solutions they need to reach their construction goals. The company's portfolio includes new construction, renovations, tenant build outs, and additions with services in general and sustainable (LEED) construction, pre-construction, design/build and construction management. Breaking Ground Contracting Company strives to be a leader in sustainable construction through their commitment to high-performance building and environmentally conscious practices. For more information on Breaking Ground Contracting Company, please visit their website at www.breakinggroundcontracting.com or contact Ellen Leroy-Reed at (904) 388-1350.

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