



For Immediate Release
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Art Lennig to Lead Georgia Association of Business Brokers



ATLANTA -- **Art Lennig**, a regional director of Murphy Business & Financial Corporation, has been elected president of the Georgia Association of Business Brokers for 2010.

The [Georgia Association of Business Brokers \(GABB\)](http://www.gabb.org) is the state's only professional organization and Multiple Listing Service dedicated to buying and selling businesses and franchises.

Other GABB officers are:

Vice President, Eric Gagnon, founder and president of We Sell Restaurants and wesellrestaurants.com.

Secretary, Dave Chambless, principal of Abraxas Business Services

Treasurer, Matt Slappey, owner of the Decatur office of Murphy Business & Financial Corporation,

Past president Van Watkins of Coldwell Banker Commercial Metro Brokers.

Members of the GABB Board of Directors include **Tom Burdick** of Metro Brokers/GMAC; **Henry Hicks** of Georgia Business Associates; **John Jugovic**, an associate with Prime Business Investments, Inc.; and **J. Snyp III** of Preferred Business Brokers, Inc.

GABB President ART LENNIG became a Business Broker in 2000 after more than 20 years of owning and operating his own businesses. He enjoys working with his clients to help them accomplish their goals and dreams. He served in various leadership roles with the GABB, including Secretary (2004), Treasurer (2005, 2006, & 2008), Membership Chairperson (2007 & 2008), Director (2007), and most recently 2009 Vice President. Art is a member of the International Business Brokers Association (IBBA) and has earned his Certified Business Intermediary (CBI) designation. He received the Senior Business Analyst Award from the Society of Business Analysts in 2003. He was graduated from the University of Evansville, Indiana, with a B.S. in Marketing. Lennig lives in Acworth.

GABB Vice President ERIC GAGNON founded and is president of We Sell Restaurants and wesellrestaurants.com. Gagnon previously worked in the financial services industry for Bank of America, Bank of New York and Big Five accounting firm KPMG as Director of Business Development. He is a graduate of Francis Marion University and the University of Montreal. A frequent speaker and writer about restaurant brokerage, he has been designated a Business Industry Expert by Business Brokerage Press. He is a member of the Georgia Restaurant Association, the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC) and Business Brokers of Florida (BBF), and is the preferred broker for Georgia Restaurant Consulting Group. Eric is a licensed Broker in both Georgia and Florida.

GABB Secretary DAVE CHAMBLESS is a principal with Abraxas Business Services. Chambless has served in sales, marketing, and executive roles in technology firms, as CFO for public and private companies and as a management consultant. Also a CPA, Chambless serves on the Technology Association of Georgia (TAG) Board of Directors, chairs its Leadership Council and is chairman of TAG-Finance. He also serves on the boards of the Grant Park Conservancy, Southeast Atlanta Business Association and is actively involved in All Saints' Episcopal Church. He volunteers for The Samaritan House of Atlanta, where he formerly served on the board for 15 years. He has served on the Board of Resource Opportunity Center of Atlanta and is on the Advisory Council of 24/7 Gateway, a homeless services center sponsored by United Way of Atlanta. Chambless has an MBA in Finance from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and a Bachelor of Industrial Engineering degree from Georgia Tech.

GABB Treasurer MATT SLAPPEY owns the Decatur office of Murphy Business & Financial Corporation, where he works with businesses of all types, ranging from \$100,000 to \$10,000,000 in gross sales. He earned his Board Certified Intermediary designation through Murphy, is a member of the IBBA and sat for his CBI exam in November at the most recent IBBA Conference. Prior to becoming a Business Broker, Matt worked in management for a Fortune 100 healthcare company and holds an FAA license as an airline pilot, qualified in both airplanes and helicopters. A native of Decatur, Slappey earned a B.S. in accounting and economics from Presbyterian College.

GABB Past President VAN WATKINS is a 16-year veteran in the Business Brokerage industry and a Lifetime Member of the GABB "Million Dollar Club," and has served on its Board of Directors for the past six years. Also a member of the Atlanta Commercial Board of REALTORS®, he has won many annual and quarterly company awards at Metro Brokers Commercial, including "Agent of the Year" (2006), "Top Business Broker" (2005 & 2006) and "Top Commercial Agent" (2007), and is a member of the "Summit Century Club" for exceptional performance. His past experience includes portfolio & financial management, executive level positions in numerous 501(c)(3) charitable organizations and humanitarian concerns. Watkins earned B.A. in religious studies from the University of Alabama.

GABB Board member TOM BURDICK is affiliated with Metro Brokers/GMAC, providing Business Brokerage services to sellers and buyers of main street businesses in the greater metropolitan Atlanta area. Burdick is also a member of the Atlanta Commercial Board of REALTORS® and the IBBA. Burdick, who lives in Alpharetta, has a B.S. in electrical engineering from the University of Alabama.

GABB Board member HENRY HICKS is the CEO of Georgia Business Associates, Inc., a Certified Business Intermediary, Merger & Acquisition Master Intermediary and Fellow of the IBBA. He chaired the board of the IBBA in 2002, was editor of the IBBA News, and is a past treasurer of GABB. He is chairman of the founding board of the Business Intermediary Education Foundation, a member of the Atlanta Commercial Board of REALTORS® (ACBR); the Roswell Rotary, and past chair of the board of the Child Development Association of Roswell; Hicks was CEO and chairman of the board of a North Carolina savings bank in Rocky Mount, NC, which he took public with an IPO in 1985. The Roswell Jaycees named Hicks "Jaycee of the Year," and he is an elder and past treasurer of the Roswell Presbyterian Church. He earned a B.S.I.M. from Georgia Tech in 1962 and a Masters in Public Administration from Georgia State University in 1966.

GABB Board member JOHN JUGOVIC, an associate with Prime Business Investments, Inc., has worked in the small business community in Atlanta for nearly 30 years. He has a strong record of success in Operations and Finance in both high-paced environments with significant growth, as well as start-up ventures applying strategies for achieving aggressive business goals. Jugovic has managed acquisition and reorganization of entrepreneurial enterprises in the medical devices, distribution and consumer products industries. Jugovic earned a B.S. in chemical engineering from Purdue University and was recently awarded the Certified Business Intermediary (CBI) designation from the IBBA.

GABB Board member J. SNYPP III grew up in Atlanta and graduated from Georgia Southern University. Snypp spent more than two decades in the office furniture business before becoming a Business Broker and has been with Preferred Business Brokers, Inc., for almost 4 years.

Experienced brokers with the [Georgia Association of Business Brokers \(GABB\)](#) can help a buyer find businesses for sale, negotiate a fair price and obtain financing. A broker can help an owner evaluate and price a business, market and advertise to prospective buyers, negotiate and close a deal. The GABB Web site lists hundreds of businesses for sale throughout Georgia, as well as around the country.

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Note to Media: To interview a business broker expert,

contact Diane Loupe at 404-374-3990 dloupe@mindspring.com