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Georgia Association of Business Brokers Names 18 Members to Prestigious *2007 GABB Million Dollar Club*

ATLANTA, April 10, 2008 – The Georgia Association of Business Brokers, Inc., announces the members of the 2007 GABB *Million Dollar Club*. This *A-list* includes 18 professional business broker colleagues whose hard work resulted in over \$90 million worth of transaction values.

Each year GABB's *Million Dollar Club* recognizes the top business sales producers in the business brokerage industry. To qualify for this honor, GABB professionals must have produced business sales of \$1,000,000 or more. Awards are presented to the year's *Top Producer*, *Top 5*, *Multi-Million Dollar*, and *Million Dollar Club* members.

"The achievements recognized by induction into the GABB *Million Dollar Club* are nothing short of extraordinary," said GABB President James Welch. "It is an honor among brokers to break through the million-dollar barrier in transactions. These business sales are representative of the backbone of American business. The size and scope of these businesses range from small mom-and-pop retail shops to large manufacturing and distributing businesses."

The buyers of these enterprises tend to be what some refer to as "displaced corporate executives," who in effect are purchasing themselves a job, building their own wealth, and contributing to the spirit of entrepreneurship in our society.

Welch continued, "Our current economy has displaced more people from traditional jobs, resulting in more people wishing to purchase existing businesses. At the same time, it has gotten more challenging to get deals financed." He added, "The brokers in GABB have done an extraordinary job bringing buyers and sellers together in this market, and those being recognized today are the *crème de la crème* of 2007."

GABB's *Top Producer* for 2007 was Jeffery E. Merry of The Business House, Inc. Merry took center stage with more than \$15 million in sales. Merry, who has been a broker for 15 years, also won *Top Producer* for 2006 and 2002. He has placed in the *Million Dollar Club* since its inception in 1999 and has always been in the *Top 5*.

The *Top 5* brokers honored by the GABB included: Charles A. Jay of Jay and Associates, LLC; Henry L. Hicks of Georgia Business Associates, Inc; Jay Fenello of BizPlacements.com, LLC; C. David Chambless of Abraxas Business Services; and Jeffery E. Merry of The Business House, Inc.

Earning the distinction of *Multi-Million Dollar Club* brokers were: GABB Director Peter Antoniadis and Joseph J. Sofet both of Prime Business Investments, Inc.; Mark Reeves Bell of The Bell Company LLC; GABB Director Stuart J. Brady, J. Robert Snypp, III, and Matthew M. Wochele of Preferred Business Brokers, Inc.; Bina Cline, GABB Vice President Van Watkins, and GABB President James Welch of Metro Brokers/GMAC, Inc.; Patrick Harkins of Anchor Business Advisors, Inc.; Nick N. Modares of Business Brokers, Inc; and GABB Past President David R. Still of Capital Endeavors, Inc. John W. Mitchell, III, of Preferred Business Brokers, Inc., was recognized for the *Million Dollar Club*.

The Georgia Association of Business Brokers, GABB, is a not-for-profit membership organization committed to establishing and maintaining an environment and support structure for success and professionalism in the business brokerage industry. GABB actively encourages each member to achieve his or her highest potential by promoting education, integrity, community responsibility, leadership, professionalism, and productivity.

The GABB meets on the last Tuesday of each month from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the South Terraces Meeting Center (across from Perimeter Mall), 115 Perimeter Center Place, NE, Atlanta, GA 30346. For more information please visit www.GABB.org.

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