

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **WATSON RICE LLP ANNOUNCES AN ACCOUNTANCY PARTNERSHIP WITH THOMPSON, COBB, BAZILIO & ASSOCIATES, PC**

NEW YORK, NY, January 14, 2008 ... Watson Rice LLP (WR), one of the nation's oldest and largest accounting firms owned and operated by diverse management, announced today that it has entered into a partnership agreement with Thompson, Cobb, Bazilio & Associates, PC (TCBA), a leading accounting, tax and consulting firm with more than 200 professionals headquartered in Washington, DC. TCBA also has offices in Torrance, CA; Bowie, MD; Atlanta, GA; Hartford, CT and Philadelphia, PA. Effective January 1, 2008, Watson Rice LLP has been operating as a local office under the name TCBA Watson Rice LLP in the states of New York, New Jersey and Florida.

Bennie Hadnott, CPA, MBA, will serve as the Managing Partner of TCBA Watson Rice LLP. Ralph Bazilio, President of Thompson, Cobb, Bazilio & Associates, PC will join the Executive Committee of TCBA Watson Rice LLP.

According to Bennie Hadnott, the partnership with TCBA "will result in a stronger service provider, locally and nationally. This merger of resources creates an unparalleled opportunity for both and strengthens our position as an industry leader. Immediately, our clients will benefit from the partnership through accelerated combined resources, expertise and strengthened market position. This partnership will also enable the firms to operate and compete more effectively in a dynamic global market place."

For more information on this partnership, please contact Bennie Hadnott, Managing Partner, at 1-800-945-5970.

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