

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Joel Allegretti
212-596-6111
jallegretti@aicpa.org

AICPA WINS AWARDS FOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND JOB GROWTH IN RESEARCH TRIANGLE

DURHAM, NC (March 13, 2008) – The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants has received two awards for its contributions to the Research Triangle community.

The Institute earned the inaugural Best Community Development Award, sponsored by Accentuate Staffing, for its achievements in local outreach. The award cited the AICPA's partnership with the Durham Public Schools; its work with the Volunteer Center of Durham and Project Homeless Connect; its financial contributions to various local arts and educational organizations; and its sponsorship of the Durham Bulls Education Rewards Program, which enabled 10,000 students and 9,000 educators to attend a ballgame last summer.

The AICPA received a 2008 Business Champions Award from *Business Leader* magazine and Wake Tech Community College. The Institute was honored for its contributions to job growth in the Raleigh-Durham area and its employee training programs. The Business Champion Awards are presented annually to Research Triangle businesses that help make the region a stronger, more vibrant place to live and work.

"It's gratifying to be recognized by our peers for our efforts," said Anthony Pugliese, AICPA senior vice president – finance, membership and operations. "What's even more pleasing is that we're still a new resident of the Triangle area and have been warmly welcomed and embraced by the community. It confirms for us that our decision to relocate to Durham was the right one."

The AICPA moved the majority of its operations from New Jersey to Durham in 2006 and has approximately 370 employees here. The Institute has projected a 10 percent employee growth rate in 2008.

-more-

About the AICPA

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (www.aicpa.org) is the national, professional association of CPAs, with more than 350,000 members, including CPAs in business and industry, public practice, government, and education; student affiliates; and international associates.

It sets ethical standards for the profession and U.S. auditing standards for audits of private companies; federal, state and local governments; and non-profit organizations. It develops and grades the Uniform CPA Examination.

The AICPA maintains offices in New York; Washington, D.C.; Durham, N.C.; Ewing, N.J.; and Lewisville, TX.

Media representatives are invited to visit the AICPA Online Media Center at <http://www.aicpa.org/MediaCenter>

###