

**For Immediate Release**

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**Ernst & Young Seeks Maryland's Outstanding Entrepreneurs**

***Nominations Now Being Accepted for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2007 Award***

**Baltimore, MD February 1, 2007** – Ernst & Young LLP today opened the nomination period for the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2007 Awards in Maryland. The deadline for applications is March 30, 2007, with the awards ceremony scheduled for June 28, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency Baltimore.

Recognized as one of the most highly-regarded business award programs in the country, the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards program, now in its 21<sup>st</sup> year, acknowledges business luminaries for creating and guiding innovative companies. Award winners are selected by a panel of independent judges, including local business owners – many of whom have won the award in the past – as well as area leaders from civic organizations and academic institutions.

“Nowhere in the world does entrepreneurship flourish as it does in America, and Ernst & Young is proud to continually commend these entrepreneurs who are building tomorrow’s leading global businesses,” said Phil Anderson, Americas Director of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year program. “It is a great pleasure for us to play a role in recognizing these extraordinary individuals, who embody the best of American ingenuity and determination, and the very successful businesses they have created.”

**The Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards in Maryland**

Last year, eight entrepreneurs in eight categories from Maryland were selected as Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year award winners from more than 60 nominations. Past award winners in Maryland have included, Mark Richardson, President, Case Design/Remodeling, Inc.; Brad MacDonald, Chairman and CEO, Medifast, Inc.; Gary Marino, Chief Executive Officer, I4 Commerce,; Fran Lesson, President, Passport Health, Inc.; Dr. Ellen Yankellow, President and CEO, Correct Rx Pharmacy Services, Inc.; Richard Campbell, Founder/President/CEO, ICAT Logistics, Inc.; Jay Steinmetz, Chairman, Barcoding, Inc.; and Len Stoler, President, Len Stoler, Inc.

“This program honors the brightest business leaders in our community,” said Dave Jones, Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Program Director for Maryland. “Maryland-based professionals look forward to nominating their colleagues and associates for this prestigious award.”

### **Awards Criteria**

Awards are given to entrepreneurs who have demonstrated excellence and extraordinary success in such areas as innovation, financial performance, and personal commitment to their businesses and communities. Self-nominations are encouraged and there is no fee. Application forms must be received by March 30, 2007.

To be eligible for consideration, the nominee must be an owner/manager of a private or public company who is primarily responsible for the recent performance of the company and an active member of top management.

### **Sponsors**

Founded and produced by Ernst & Young LLP, the Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards are pleased to welcome Bank of America as the national presenting sponsor. The awards are nationally sponsored by SAP America and the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation.

In Maryland, local Platinum level sponsors include Clifton Gunderson LLP and DLA Piper US LLP.

### **Contact Information**

For more information and nomination forms contact: Jennifer Bergman, Program Manager, Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Maryland Awards, at 410.986.0984 or [jennifer.bergman@ey.com](mailto:jennifer.bergman@ey.com). Information is also available at [www.ey.com/us/eoy](http://www.ey.com/us/eoy).

### **About the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards**

The Entrepreneur Of The Year® awards program was created and is produced by professional services firm Ernst & Young LLP. As the first award of its kind, the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® Award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who are building and leading dynamic and growing businesses. The program, which celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2006, honors entrepreneurs through regional, national and global award programs in over 125 cities and 40 countries.

### **About Ernst & Young**

Ernst & Young, a global leader in professional services, is committed to enhancing the public’s trust in professional services firms and in the quality of financial reporting. Its 114,000 people in 140 countries pursue the highest levels of integrity, quality, and professionalism in providing a range of sophisticated services centered on our core competencies of auditing, accounting, tax, and transactions. Further information about Ernst & Young and its approach to a variety of business issues can be found at [www.ey.com/perspectives](http://www.ey.com/perspectives). Ernst & Young refers to the global organization of member firms of Ernst & Young Global Limited, a U.K. company limited by guarantee, each of which is a separate legal entity. Ernst & Young Global Limited does not provide services to clients. Ernst & Young LLP is the U.S. client-serving member firm of Ernst & Young Global Limited.

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