



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SMITH BARNEY'S SWANSON GROUP RECOGNIZED AS A TOP-RANKED FINANCIAL ADVISOR TEAM

– Selected by The Winner's Circle in *Research Magazine*–

West Des Moines, Iowa – Smith Barney is pleased to announce that the Swanson Group, comprised of Keith Swanson, Senior Vice President – Wealth Management, Rick Stachon, Senior Vice President – Wealth Management, Meredith Swanson, Second Vice President – Wealth Management, Alan Beck – Financial Advisor, and Robert Chleborad, Financial Advisor was recognized in *Research Magazine* as one of their Top-Ranked Advisor Teams in America. The article appeared in the September 1, 2008 issue and is based on the methodology and criteria of independent research organization The Winner's Circle.

"These teams are true client advocates," RJ Shook, President and Founder of The Winner's Circle, said, "always striving to provide the highest quality advice and service to their clients."

The Winner's Circle screens more than 7,000 financial professionals nationwide on an annual basis for all projects and selected 130 full service financial advisor teams using a combination of quantitative and qualitative criteria. * Those identified on the list were selected based on their continued focus on adhering to the best practices that govern our business, success and quality service that they provide to their clients.

Mr. Swanson has been a member of Citi Family Office and Citi Institutional Consulting for approximately 35 years. As a Financial Advisor with the firm, Mr. Swanson, provides a full suite of investment services and comprehensive financial planning strategies to individual investors, institutions focusing on wealth management, managed money, estate planning, retirement and education planning.

A graduate of Iowa State University with a bachelor's degree in Economics, Mr. Swanson holds the CIMA designation, and is a member of the firm's Director's Council and the Director's Advisory Group (DAG).

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Smith Barney is a division of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. (Member SIPC). It is a leading provider of comprehensive financial planning and advisory services to high net worth investors, institutions, corporations and private businesses, governments and foundations. With approximately 14,600 financial advisors in nearly 800 offices, Smith Barney offers a full suite of investment services, including asset allocation, private investments and lending services, hedge funds, cash and portfolio management, as well as retirement, education and estate planning. Smith Barney currently has more than 9.2 million client accounts, representing \$1,482 billion in client assets.

Citi, the leading global financial services company, is affiliated with millions of clients, corporations, governments and institutional investors in more than 100 countries and offers a broad range of financial products, advice and services, including consumer banking and finance, corporate and investment banking, securities brokerage, wealth management and alternative investments. Citi is also recognized as a leader in corporate responsibility, sustainable growth, financial education

and microfinance and it is a component of the Dow Jones Sustainability Index and FTSE4Good Index. Additional information may be found at www.citigroup.com or www.citi.com.

**Research Magazine's 130 Top-Ranked Advisor Teams in America, as identified by The Winner's Circle®, LLC, bases its rankings on qualitative criteria: professionals with a minimum of 7 years' financial services experience, acceptable compliance records, client retention reports, customer satisfaction, and more. With over 7,000 nominations compiled on an annual basis, advisor teams are quantitatively ranked based on varying types of revenues and assets advised by the financial professional, with weightings associated for each. Additional measures include: in-depth interviews and discussions with senior management, peers, and customers, and telephone-based and in-person interviews with the nominees. Because individual client portfolio performance varies and is typically unaudited, this ranking focuses on customer satisfaction and quality of advice. For more information on ranking methodology, go to www.WCorg.com. The rating may not be representative of any one client's experience because it reflects a sample of all of the experiences of the advisor's clients. The rating is not indicative of the advisor's future performance. Neither Smith Barney nor its financial advisors pay a fee to The Winner's Circle in exchange for the rating.*

PRESS CONTACT: Jim Willer, Branch Office Manager, 515-283-7000