



HA&W Director Recognized as One of Atlanta’s “Up and Comers”

Michael Blake selected as one of the metro area’s top young professionals by the Atlanta Business Chronicle

ATLANTA, November 16, 2009 – Michael Blake, CFA, Director of Valuation Services with Atlanta accounting firm Habif, Arogeti & Wynne, LLP (HA&W), was selected by the *Atlanta Business Chronicle* as one of the city’s “up and comers” for 2009. Each year, the paper selects and presents awards to 40 business professionals under the age of 40 who have made significant contributions to their communities and are leaders in their companies.

Blake joined HA&W this year to head the firm’s Valuation Services Practice.

“I am honored to receive this recognition,” said Blake. Since moving to Atlanta six years ago, I made it my goal to contribute as much as could to my new community. “This honor is a direct result of the support of the partners and staff at HA&W, who encourage all employees to serve the community beyond our job responsibilities. This recognition is accompanied by an important responsibility to continue my service to the community and to encourage others to be servant leaders as well.”

“Blake is a key player at HA&W,” said Dan Simms, Managing Partner and CEO of the firm. “He brings a high level of expertise to all areas of business valuations. This allows us to provide an even greater level of service to our clients.”

Blake received his Bachelor’s Degree, Cum Laude, in Economics and French from Franklin & Marshall College and his Masters of Business Administration Degree from Georgetown University. Michael is the co-founder and co-host of StartupLounge.com, non-profit online podcast and forum resource for entrepreneurs and private company investors. He was a Finalist for the 2009 Turknnett Leadership Character Award and a Finalist for the 2009 TechAmerica Spirit of Endeavor Award for Technology Educator of the Year.

Michael’s professional affiliations include:

- Chartered Financial Analyst Institute
- American Society of Appraisers
- Phi Beta Kappa
- Georgia Tech/Emory TI:GER Entrepreneurship Program Advisory Board
- Ukrainian-American Chamber of Commerce

(MORE)

Habif, Arogeti & Wynne, LLP (www.hawcpa.com) is the largest independent accounting and business advisory firm headquartered in Georgia and one of the top 50 CPA firms in the United States. The firm's more than 300 professionals provide financial solutions – including accounting, auditing and tax services, management consulting, financial planning, technology consulting and financial staffing – to more than 7,000 clients in a variety of industries. HA&W is a member of Baker Tilly International, an association of leading independent accounting firms worldwide.

###

Contact: Brian Falony
Habif, Arogeti & Wynne LLP
770-353-7111
brian.falony@hawcpa.com