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Contact:

Sachin Shah; 301-738-0015 ext. 202

Cell: 301-526-1338

sshah@montgomerycountychamber.com

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Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce Announces 2008 Business Awards Winners and Finalists

ROCKVILLE, MD - The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce today announced the winners and finalists of the Chamber's prestigious 2008 Business Awards:

2008 Business Leader of the Year

David Mott, MediImmune

Emeritus Business Leader

William Peel Sr., Red Coats, Datawatch Systems, Admiral Security

2008 Corporate Achievement Award

Qiagen Sciences

Small Business Leader of the Year

Sterling Crockett, Sterling Construction Services

Corporate Social Responsibility

Lanigan, Ryan, Malcolm & Doyle

Spirit of Free Enterprise

The Tower Companies

Finalists for the Verl Zanders Emerging Business of the Year

Sponsored by Sterling Construction Services

Get Real Consulting

Mountaintop Marketing Group

MyEyeDr.

"The 2008 Business Awards winners and finalists represent the brightest stars in the Montgomery County business community," said Trevor Garner, Chairman of the MCCC Business Awards Committee and Vice President, Administration at M&T Bank. **"They are the companies and individuals who lead the way in making Montgomery County a great place to do business."**

"These winners and finalists for the 2008 Business Awards are the companies that are succeeding today and driving our community's future growth through their vision and innovation," said Dr. James S. Whang, Chairman of the Chamber's Board of Directors and Chairman and CEO of AEPLOG.

"We are pleased to announce that we have renamed the Emerging Business of the Year Award in memory of our late Board Member and business leader

Verl Zanders to honor his impact on the Montgomery County business community" said Georgette "Gigi" Godwin, Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce President and CEO. "Verl was a great leader in our community and mentored many emerging business owners. His company, Z-Tech, was named the 2006 Emerging Business of the Year. "

The 2008 Business Awards Dinner will take place on Tuesday, November 11, 2008 at the Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center from 6:00 to 9:00 PM. The Platinum Sponsors for the 2008 Business Awards Dinner are AEPLOG, Adventist HealthCare, BDO Seidman, The Chevy Chase Land Company, Hughes Network Systems, MedImmune, Marriott International and PNC Bank.

About the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce serves its business membership by providing members with the opportunity to connect with one another and by advocating for an improved local and Maryland-wide business climate through effective legislative and political action. The current Chairman of the Board is Dr. James S. Whang, Chairman and President of AEPLOG. For more formation about the Chamber, visit <http://www.montgomerycountychamber.com>.