

For Immediate Release

WITT MARES, PLC ADDS CRAIG ASCARI AS PARTNER
TO HEAD BUSINESS ADVISORY PRACTICE

Newport News, VA (September 5, 2008) – Witt Mares, PLC, one of the largest regional accounting and consulting firms in the Mid-Atlantic, recently announced that Craig Ascari has joined the firm as a partner. Effective immediately, Ascari will be Managing Director of the firm's business advisory practice where he will oversee the firm's activities in the areas of strategic planning, financial advisory and investment banking services.

Ascari has more than 20 years of investment banking and corporate development experience. Prior to joining Witt Mares, Ascari held senior positions with Ferris, Baker Watts; Raymond James; and Wheat, First Securities (now Wachovia Securities). Previously, he served as vice president of corporate development for Trigon Blue Cross Blue Shield (now Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield). Earlier in his career, Ascari provided strategic planning and financial forecasting services for a division of Automatic Data Processing.

Ascari also gives back to the community through his involvement in several organizations, including Richmond Metropolitan Habitat for Humanity and The Micah Initiative.

Ascari received a Master of Science in Resource Economics from the University of Rhode Island and a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Virginia Tech.

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