

For Immediate Release

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SmithBucklin Promotes Five Associates to Senior Director

CHICAGO – March 22, 2006 – SmithBucklin, the world’s largest association management company, today announced the promotion of Kathy Bell, Steve Burger, Bret Kelsey, John Murphy and Scott Patterson to senior director.

“We are pleased to recognize these individuals for their passion and dedication to SmithBucklin,” said Silverstein. “They play an instrumental role in driving the growth and success of our company and our clients, and we look forward to their future achievements.”

Kathy Bell, CAE, joined SmithBucklin in 1993 as an association executive. She currently serves as executive director of The International Forum, a position she has held since 1995. In her new role, Bell is also responsible for directing the transition services for new client organizations.

Steve Burger joined SmithBucklin in 2000 as an accounting manager, and has since developed and instituted significant financial management tools and innovations. In his new role as senior director of SmithBucklin’s Financial Management & Accounting Services unit, he will continue to positively impact the quality and depth of financial services provided to SmithBucklin’s Chicago-based clients.

Bret Kelsey joined SmithBucklin in 1986 as a research manager in the company’s Marketing & Communication Services unit. He became an association executive in 1992, and has served as executive director of CATIA Operators Exchange since 1994. Kelsey has also served as executive director of the International DB2 Users Group since 2003. With this promotion, Kelsey assumes the additional role of director of client services for the SmithBucklin + MCI Global Partnership, which delivers seamless association and event management services worldwide. He also takes on responsibility for overseeing several client organizations within SmithBucklin’s Technology Business Unit.

John Murphy joined SmithBucklin as an association executive in 1985. He currently serves as executive director of the National Association of Local Housing Finance Agencies and the National Association for County Community and Economic Development, positions he has held since 1985 and 1989 respectively. With this promotion, Murphy assumes the additional responsibility for oversight of several client organizations within SmithBucklin’s Business Trade Business Unit.

Scott Patterson joined SmithBucklin in 2003 as an association executive. He currently serves as executive director of the Americas' SAP Users' Group, a position he has held since joining the company. With this promotion, Patterson assumes the additional responsibility for oversight of several client organizations within SmithBucklin's Technology Business Unit and its educational initiatives.

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About SmithBucklin

SmithBucklin is the world's largest association management and professional services company providing flexible, tailored full-service management and function/project-specific services to more than 210 trade associations, professional societies, technology user groups and government institutes/agencies. SmithBucklin's mission is to drive growth and build sustained competitiveness for client organizations. Founded in 1949, the company employs 630 professionals specializing in all phases of association activity, including executive management, member and chapter administration, convention and trade show management, marketing and branding, Web services, education and programs, government relations and financial management. SmithBucklin manages more than \$200 million in annual client budgets from offices in Chicago, Washington, DC, St. Louis and Durham, NC. SmithBucklin is 100 percent employee owned. For more information, please visit www.smithbucklin.com or call 1.800.539.9740.