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Ronald E. Pietrzak Named to the Association Forum of Chicagoland's 2006-2007 Board of Directors

CHICAGO – April 26, 2006 – The Association Forum of Chicagoland has announced that SmithBucklin's Ronald E. Pietrzak has been elected to its 2006-2007 Board of Directors. Founded in 1916, the Forum is a professional society of association executives from more than 1,500 business, charitable, civic and professional organizations headquartered in the Chicagoland area.

“We are honored to have Ron serve as an Association Forum director,” said SmithBucklin President and COO Julie Silverstein. “Stepping forward and volunteering is part of the SmithBucklin culture, and I know that he will continue to make great contributions to the Forum.”

Pietrzak, who has been a Forum member since 1979, joined SmithBucklin in 1992 and serves as executive director of the Association of Steel Distributors, the Wallcoverings Association, and the American Ladder Institute. Pietrzak began his career in association management in 1979 as executive director of the National Decorating Products Association (NDPA), a trade association with an annual budget exceeding \$8 million. In 1985, he was named NDPA's Executive Vice President. Ron received a CBA in Association/Business Management from DePaul University.

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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.