



**Beacon Associates President, Carol Koffinke
Named Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year[®] 2009 Award
Winner in Maryland**

Award Recognizes Entrepreneurial Excellence in Business Services Category

Bel Air, MD, June 30, 2009 – Beacon Associates, Inc., a management consulting company headquartered in Bel Air, MD, announced today that President Carol Koffinke, received the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year[®] 2009 Award in the Business Services category in Maryland. According to Ernst & Young LLP, the award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who are building and leading dynamic, growing businesses. Ms. Koffinke was selected by an independent panel of judges, and the award was presented at a gala event at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel on June 25, 2009.

“I am so honored to have won this award. I know my success is very much a result of the outstanding people that make up this company, and I am so grateful for their contributions and commitment. I accepted this award on behalf of the company and our amazing staff and we are all very, very proud,” says Ms. Koffinke.

In 2001, Carol Koffinke left the healthcare industry and struck out on her own to provide management consulting and executive coaching services to state and local organizations. Along the way, she built relationships and an excellent reputation in the human capital industry as she brought her key values of quality, trust, and work ethic to every client and partner she worked with. Since Beacon Associates’ inception, Ms. Koffinke has turned the company into a rapidly growing \$14 million dollar success, with over 150 employees and an outstanding reputation for quality service, trust, and work ethic – the same values that formed Beacon Associates in the beginning. Currently, Beacon provides workforce, organizational, and operational solutions to the federal government and private industry, including to the Departments of Health and Human Services, Homeland Security, Treasury, and Transportation, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, General Electric, and more.

The Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Awards celebrate their 23rd anniversary this year. The program honors entrepreneurs who have demonstrated exceptionality in such areas as innovation, financial performance, and personal commitment to their businesses and communities.

“We are proud to recognize the achievements of Carol Koffinke,” said Harry Thomasian, Ernst & Young LLP Entrepreneur of the Year Program Director for Maryland. “Winners of the Entrepreneur of the Year Award build leading businesses and contribute significantly to the strength of our region’s economy. Their success helps our area grow stronger.”

As a Maryland award winner, Ms. Koffinke is now eligible for the Ernst & Young LLP Entrepreneur of the Year 2009 national program. Award winners in several national categories, as well as the overall national Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year award winner, will be announced at the annual awards gala in Palm Springs, California on November 14, 2009. The awards are the culminating event of the Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Forum, the nation’s most prestigious gathering of high-growth, market-leading companies.

Beacon Associates, Inc. is a woman-owned, small business that partners with the government and private-sector companies to help them achieve their desired outcomes. They are a certified 8(a) company with significant experience, skills, and successes in business and technology consulting from both the government and Fortune 500 companies. Since their inception, they have doubled in size every year and look forward to even more growth in the future.

Ernst & Young’s Entrepreneur Of The Year® Award is the world’s most prestigious business award for entrepreneurs. The award makes a difference through the way it encourages entrepreneurial activity among those with potential and recognizes the contribution of people who inspire others with their vision, leadership and achievement. As the first and only truly global award of its kind, the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® award celebrates those who are building and leading successful, growing and dynamic businesses, recognizing them through regional, national and global awards programs in more than 135 cities in 50 countries.

Contact:

Carol Koffinke
Beacon Associates, Inc.
410-638-7279
www.beaconassociates.net