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Patrick O'Keefe and Ron Reuter Chosen for Outstanding Inc Contribution Awards

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(TMA HQ Chicago)

 CHICAGO – Patrick M. O’Keefe, CTP, and Ronald J. Reuter have been selected as Outstanding Individual recipients from among the nearly 9,000 members in 45Turnaround Management Association (TMA) chapter award is given to individuals whose dedication and commitment have made a lasting contribution not or the corporate renewal industry. They will be honored at the TMA 2009 Spring Conference April 28-30, 21 InterContinental in Chicago.

Patrick M. O’Keefe, CTP, O’Keefe & Associates

After 10 years of experience in turnaround management consulting, Patrick O’Keefe founded his Michigan develop a team of financial professionals who would provide a resource for closely held businesses in ne through life events that impact the financial wellbeing of owners, employees and their families. O’Keefe fast-growing consulting firm with offices in Bloomfield Hills and Grand Rapids, bringing success stories to environment of Michigan.

O’Keefe has been a TMA member throughout his career, becoming a board member of the Detroit Chapt from 2004-2006. During his term, the chapter nearly doubled in size, and he helped initiate se such as a chapter newsletter, awards program, a two-tiered sponsorship program and a sp also served as vice chair of the TMA Chapter President’s Council while president. The Detro Improved TMA Chapter of the Year in 2006, followed by Chapter of the Year in 2007.

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A passionate advocate of the Certified Turnaround Professional program, he served on the 2007 orchestrated the successful merger of the Association of Certified Turnaround Profess administered the program since 1993, into TMA for broader administrative support. His lea popular three-day program with study sessions and testing done at the same location. He profit-sharing model with CTP to encourage chapters to host CTP study sessions, with the l the first one. The CTP has now reached critical mass at nearly 450 and enjoys higher visibi efforts.

Other contributions, in addition to serving on TMA International's Board of Directors, include his company's sponsorships of both local and international events, being part of the TMAssist team that led business recovery workshops in Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina, and serving on the TMA Nominations Committee.

He is active in many other restructuring-related organizations and is the recipient of many awards, most recently a Friedt Business Medal of Honor Award from Cleary University. He is on advisory boards for the University of Detroit and Oakland University and mentors young professionals in the Detroit TMA Chapter and through the O'Keefe and Associates internship program.

Charles Moore, president of the Detroit TMA chapter, said "Mr. O'Keefe is an undeniable asset to TMA...and he has demonstrated excellence in the field of finance on the national and local basis.... His calming influence and leadership in the face of adversity produces extraordinary outcomes for ordinary business owners facing events...significant to their growth or survival."

Ronald J. Reuter, RJ Reuter Business Consulting

Ron Reuter is an exemplary role model for the many turnaround practitioners within TMA. Reuter formed his practice nearly simultaneously with becoming a TMA member almost ten years ago and went on to become one of Connecticut's leading turnaround consulting practices. Real-world experience and credibility facilitate Reuter's abilities to counsel working with —small and mid-market cases and private equity/family-owned businesses that don't always make the headlines. Reuter does it all for his clients: from creating the turnaround plan and restructuring financing, negotiating with creditors, asset sales, dealing with debtor and creditor counsel, appearing in court, filing statements, to seeing it through to resolution of the case.

At the same time he was juggling several cases, his energy and enthusiasm set a high standard for other professionals in volunteer service. Reuter has worked consistently and tirelessly over the past five years to bring the Connecticut Chapter and TMA to a higher level of performance. Beginning as the chapter's vice president of programming in 2004, and serving as president in 2005 and chairman in 2006-2007, Connecticut Chapter leaders credit him with raising the stature and financial health of its chapter. His technical skills enhanced the chapter's website and e-newsletters, and he arranged for joint events with related organizations to broaden networking. His contacts resulted in high-profile guests and speakers at the chapter events and supported the enhancement and growth of the partnership with the State of Connecticut in the chapter's CT Revitalization (Pro Bono) Program that provides help with assessing troubled companies.

Reuter was soon tapped for leadership within TMA International, serving on *The Journal of Corporate Renewal* editorial board, as Chapter Public Relations Council chair, member of the Executive Committee, Cornerstone Council and Nominations Committee, and as vice president of Chapter Relations. In 2007, he was named chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, which after several months of work, presented TMA's strategic plan that leadership began to implement in 2008, setting the direction for the association's next three years.

In their nomination of Reuter for this award, four leaders of the Connecticut TMA Chapter wrote, "For many current directors and members, Ron was the first person we met at a TMA meeting with a warm handshake and enthusiastic introduction. Over the years, he has been a constant presence and stabilizing force throughout all the chapter's ...events."

Turnaround Management Association (<http://www.turnaround.org/> (<http://www.turnaround.org/>)) comprises a

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