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## **Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce Honors Rushton & Company** *Accounting firm named Small Business of the Year*

**GAINESVILLE, Ga. (May 12, 2011)** — The Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce named Rushton & Company as its Small Business of the Year at the Chamber's 103rd Annual Meeting and Gala.

The award is given annually to a company, with 50 or fewer employees, that has shown growth, contributed to the local business community, emphasized community service and focused on employee development.



Rushton & Company, celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, has grown into one of Northeast Georgia's largest and most respected accounting firms with a professional staff of 29 employees.

"Gainesville/Hall County is a thriving business community that we've been proud to serve for the last 30 years," Rushton & Company founder Barclay Rushton said. "We have focused on establishing 'relationship partnerships' with our clients to allow them the best opportunities to strengthen and grow their futures with the highest quality financial services, innovative counsel and advice, and outstanding customer service."

Barclay Rushton founded Rushton & Company initially as a one-man company in a tiny office on Green Street in Gainesville. After growing quietly and steadily through those early years, the firm implemented an aggressive growth strategy in 2002.

Over the last six years, Rushton & Company has seen the demand for its business counseling and accounting services grow while helping a large number of area companies survive and even prosper in the face of adversity by helping them navigate through the troubled economy in areas ranging from business planning to debt restructuring.

Consequently, Rushton & Company has grown in size from 12 employees to 29 employees during that span. The firm completed an 8,000 square-foot addition to its offices on South Enota Drive in 2008, bringing its facility to 15,000 square feet.

Rushton and Company's stature has grown nationally, as well, with its acceptance into the prestigious CPAmerica International, the world's largest association of CPA firms in 2009, and a year later the firm was named one of the Best Accounting Firms to Work For by *Accounting Today* magazine and Best Companies Group.

Founded in 1981, Rushton & Company, LLC, provides businesses throughout North Georgia with a wide variety of accounting services including auditing, tax planning and return preparation, management consulting, payroll services and business valuation. It is one of the area's largest business accounting firms with 29 staff professionals. In addition to general business operations, Rushton & Company offers financial expertise in a number of specific industry fields such as construction, agribusiness, government, healthcare, not-for-profit organizations, professional services, manufacturing and distribution. For information, call 770-287-7800 or visit [www.rushtonandcompany.com](http://www.rushtonandcompany.com).

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