

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**AXINN, VELTROP & HARKRIDER LLP RANKED AMONG TOP
NEW YORK LAW FIRMS BY CHAMBERS USA**
Five Partners Receive Individual Recognition

New York City, NY (June 13, 2008) – Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider LLP (AV&H) announced today that AV&H was again ranked as one of the top law firms in New York for antitrust by Chambers USA’s *America’s Leading Business Lawyers List*.

Additionally, Stephen Axinn, John Harkrider, Francis Morrison III, Lauren S Albert and Michael Keeley earned individual spots on the guide, which ranks leading lawyers based upon their reputation amongst peers and clients.

The Chambers Guide is the leading publisher of guides to the legal profession; generating independent rankings and providing editorial commentary. Chambers USA ranks domestic law firms and attorneys considered to be the leaders in their field and has been publishing guides to the legal profession since 1969.

“I’m very pleased with the recognition of John, Lauren, Fran and Michael,” said Mr. Axinn, senior partner of the firm. “Since I founded the firm eleven years ago with John Harkrider and Jim Veltrop, we’ve added tremendous talent and I’m very proud of our growth.”

AV&H has obtained antitrust clearance for some of the most significant transactions in recent years, including BellSouth’s acquisition by AT&T, Cingular Wireless's acquisition of AT&T Wireless, which was the largest all cash merger in history, Omnicare's acquisition of Neighborcare, Movie Gallery's acquisition of Hollywood Video, and GameStop Corp.'s acquisition of Electronics Boutique. AV&H also represented MasterCard in its IPO, which was the largest public offering of 2006, and is currently

counsel to The Great Atlantic & Pacific Tea Co., (“A&P”) in its acquisition of Pathmark. AV&H is also one of the few firms ever to have successfully litigated a merger case against the Antitrust Division. In *United States v. SunGard Data Systems*, AV&H obtained a judgment on the merits rejecting the Antitrust Division's bid to block SunGard's acquisition of the business continuity assets of its rival Comdisco Inc. In addition to domestic clients, AV&H has represented numerous clients before the European Commission, the UK Office of Fair Trading and Competition Commission, and other competition authorities for transactions in a broad range of industries.

Axinn, Veltrop & Harkrider LLP offers a wide range of legal services to clients in the fields of antitrust, intellectual property and complex litigation. AV&H represents Global 1000 companies in the following fields: aerospace, accounting services, consumer retail, financial services, healthcare, industrial technologies, publishing, software, tools, metals, and telecommunications. AV&H has earned an unsurpassed reputation in the antitrust field and regularly litigates claims and advises clients regarding antitrust matters.

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