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**WERTZ & COMPANY, LLP ANNOUNCES
ANOTHER ACQUISITION**

Russ Wertz, Chief Executive Officer of Wertz & Company LLP, one of Orange County's most successful local CPA firms, announced the merger of the tax practice of Leo Connolly, formerly a partner of Sweek, Connolly & Company, with its Irvine office. This marks the seventh such combination for Wertz & Company.

“Wertz & Company’s style and practice philosophy are identical to mine,” said Connolly in his announcement to his clients. “The combined firms will be able to offer the wide breadth and depth of services and technical expertise typically found only in much larger organizations, while retaining the personalized focus and entrepreneurial spirit of a local practice.”

Leo Connolly has been in public accounting since 1973. Upon graduating from the University of Southern California, he joined a local CPA firm and became partner in the firm that became Sweek Connolly & Company in 1975. After 37 years of practicing public accounting, and in accordance with his professional and personal goals, Leo decided to join forces with Wertz & Company by merging his practice with Wertz & Company, which was effective December 1, 2009. Mr. Connolly will continue to focus on individual and business income tax planning, tax preparation and business consulting with his clients by providing

day-to-day service and personal interaction while working to provide continuity during the transition of introducing his clients to the additional services and technical expertise of others with the Firm.

Mr. Connolly has relocated his office to the Wertz & Company office building in Irvine, bringing with him six other professional staff from his practice to ensure the smooth transition of his client base. Those joining the W&C team include Greg Tanner as Principal, Annette Kizzar and Angela Garrett as Managers, Bettina Marchetto as a Senior Accountant, Roxanne Marek as a Staff Accountant and Liza Villasenor as Administrative Assistant.

“This combination is only one component of our overall growth strategy,” said Wertz. “We remain committed to providing exceptional service in our core areas of business, while expanding our service offerings in anticipation of the future needs of our entrepreneurial clients.” Wertz further added, “We will remain open to the possibility of future acquisitions. There are many firms that need the resources and stability that we make available.”

Headquarters in Irvine, with an additional office in Long Beach, Wertz & Company is a full service, client centered, CPA firm organized along the service lines that help build, maintain, and grow its client’s enterprises. The Company offers resources in the areas of tax, attest, consulting and financial advisory services to individuals and privately-held entrepreneurial companies throughout Southern California.

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