

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 29, 2006

Contact:

Dick Emens 614/334-6129

Allison Short 614-885-7921
support@greencrest.com

Family Business Center of Central Ohio Accepting Nominations for Outstanding Family-Owned Businesses

COLUMBUS, Ohio—The Family Business Center of Central Ohio is accepting nominations for its eighth annual Family Business of the Year Awards, which honor exemplary family-owned businesses in central Ohio.

Awards will be given in four categories this year, which include small, medium and large companies, and a new category for emerging family businesses that have been in business for five years or less. Judging criteria is based on a history of business success, growth and innovation; excellent family dynamics and communication; and unique characteristics that foster employee recruitment, satisfaction and retention.

Family-owned businesses in central Ohio are eligible for nomination. Self-nominations are welcome and encouraged. Nominations can be completed online or can be downloaded from the Family Business Center's Web site at www.familybusinesscenter.com. The deadline to submit a nomination is Friday, August 18, at 5 p.m. Nominees will receive a packet to complete and return to the Family Business Center by September 22.

Finalists from each category will be notified in early October. One business in each category will be named Family Business of the Year. Honorees will be announced at a luncheon awards ceremony on Friday, November 3 at 11:30 a.m. at the Ohio Dominican University in the Colonial Room in Sansbury Hall. Finalists will also be honored at the event. Sponsors include *Business First*; Chester, Wilcox and Saxbe; Commerce National Bank; GREENCREST; and Mass Mutual.

For more information on the awards or membership opportunities, contact Becky Blatt via e-mail at blatt@familybusinesscenter.com or contact the Family Business Center at 614-253-4820.

The Family Business Center of Central Ohio is the resource dedicated to assisting family-

-more-

owned businesses. The organization focuses its educational programs on the core issues affecting family-owned businesses. The Center honors family-owned businesses each fall with its annual Family Business Awards and also sponsors networking events for members. For more information, please visit www.familybusinesscenter.com.

#