



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 20, 2008

MEDIA CONTACT: Megan Neher
913-599-5539
Megan@MNPR.biz

**STEVE FOGARTY AND VANCE BURKEY NAMED BROKERS OF THE YEAR
BY REALTY EXECUTIVES INTERNATIONAL**

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Steve Fogarty and Vance Burkey, broker/owners of Realty Executives Associates in Knoxville, were honored at the Realty Executives International annual convention earlier this year in San Diego.

Fogarty and Burkey were named Broker/Owners of the Year, an award given to one of the more than 750 broker or broker teams throughout the organization. They were chosen by the Realty Executives International Management Team as strong company leaders who embrace excellence and practice the company values and philosophy.

“It is evident that Steve is someone who not only is an advocate of professionalism and values ethics in business, but that kind of principled leadership style has earned him the respect and following of many, many agents,” said Rich Rector, chief executive officer of Realty Executives International. “It is no surprise to me that he has such tremendous success as a recruiter and manager. The agents who work in the Realty Executives Associates office highly regard Steve and his business partner, Vance Burkey as top notch brokers and friends.”

A Knoxville native, Fogarty has been working in the real estate industry in the Knoxville area for 23 years. He specializes in recruiting and designing systems that draw and retain agents.

“Vance has been a mentor and example to many in the real estate industry,” said Glenn Melton, CEO of Realty Executives International. “We were pleased to be able to honor Vance for his longtime service and specifically his attitude for helping to share his knowledge and use his incredible leadership approach for coaching professionals about success in real estate.

“We’re fortunate to have a powerful broker/owner team in Knoxville with Steve and Vance.”

Vance Burkey founded the company in Knoxville, Tenn. in 1979. He began his real estate career in 1958 and obtained his broker’s license in 1962. He and his wife, Martha, attend the First Presbyterian Church, where Burkey serves as an elder. They have four grown children and grandchildren.

Realty Executives Associates – Land Oak has its main office at 10255 Kingston Pike in Knoxville. The brokerage has 11 offices in Knox, Blount and Anderson counties with more than 560 agents. For more information call 865-693-3232.

Realty Executives International, Inc. is one of the fastest-growing real estate franchises in the United States, with more than 15,000 sales associates and over 800 franchises. The Phoenix-based, privately held company has offices in the United States, Canada, South Africa, Mexico, Costa Rica, France, Greece, Israel, Australia, Poland, Colombia, Belize, Panama, Nicaragua and Thailand. Publications like *Entrepreneur*, *Success* and *Inc.* magazines have recently ranked Realty Executives International as a leader in the real estate industry based on franchise growth, management stability and financial soundness. For additional company information visit www.realtyexecutives.com.

###