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Healthcare Investors Conference Scheduled for March 5 in Stamford, CT

Fairfield, CT (February 3, 2009): The Connecticut Venture Group (CVG), in association with the Connecticut Chapter of the Association for Corporate Growth, will present a conference for healthcare investors and executives on March 5, 2009 at the Stamford Marriott in Stamford, CT from 3:00 to 7:30 pm.

Investing in Healthcare: Opportunities & Challenges will focus on venture capital and private equity investing in the healthcare sector in the current economic climate. The conference will include expert led panel discussions on Early Stage and Later Stage investing, a keynote address, and reception for venture capital, private equity and institutional investors and health care executives.

Eric Dale, Chairman of Robinson & Cole's Emerging Companies, Private Equity and Venture Capital Practice and President of the Stamford chapter of the Connecticut Venture Group commented, "emerging and established healthcare companies are a vital component of regional economic growth and the sector continues to attract investor interest as demographic, technological and public policy factors create new opportunities and challenges." CVG and ACG-CT have invited a distinguished roster of experienced healthcare sector investors and innovative entrepreneurs to discuss how these factors and economic conditions are impacting investment decisions. Panel members will focus on Early Stage Opportunities in a marketplace undergoing significant change and a Late Stage panel will address strategic options for established firms seeking continued growth.

The Conference will also feature a keynote address by **Dr. Robert Shapiro**, Co-founder and Chairman of Sonecon, a leading economic advisory firm that provides in-depth analyses and unique insights into changing economic conditions in the United States. In addition to his post at Sonecon, Dr. Shapiro is a Senior Fellow of the Progressive Policy Institute. Dr. Shapiro served

as U.S. Undersecretary of Commerce for Economic Affairs (1997-2001) where he directed economic policy for the Commerce Department and oversaw the federal government's major statistical agencies including the Census Bureau as it planned and carried out the 2000 census. Dr. Shapiro holds a Ph.D. from Harvard University and a M.Sc. from the London School of Economics. He is the author of *Futurecast: How Superpowers, Populations, and Globalization Will Change the Way You Live and Work* (2008).

Ramsey Goodrich, Managing Director of the banking firm Carter Morse & Mathias and President of the Connecticut Chapter of the Association for Corporate Growth (ACG-CT), commented that traditional investing cycles are undergoing change as credit and financing options are constrained by the economic downturn. According to Mr. Goodrich, "IPOs and private equity options are not as prevalent as they had been for late stage firms and as venture capital investors are looking for new investment and strategic partners to support the growth aspirations of their portfolio companies, we can anticipate some keen insights from the Conference's Late Stage panelists."

The March 5th Healthcare Conference is the third in a series of sector-specific investor conferences organized by CVG and ACG-CT. Previous conferences for the Consumer Products sector (March 2008) and Digital Media (October 2008) each attracted each over 200 investors from across the region.

Additional information and online registration for the CVG-ACG Healthcare Conference is available online at either the CVG website www.cvg.org or the ACG website at www.acg.org/connecticut or by calling 203-256-5955.

The Connecticut Venture Group (CVG) is a voluntary professional organization that is committed to connecting leading Venture Investment Professionals with high-growth emerging companies. Our mission is to assist the development of these high growth enterprises through the promotion of capital formation in Connecticut. For addition information visit www.cvg.org

The **Connecticut Chapter of the Association for Corporate Growth (ACG Connecticut)** is a membership organization that facilitates relationship-building and focused education for the middle market deal-making professionals in Connecticut as well as throughout the Northeast. Today, ACG Connecticut stands at over 200 members from private equity groups, corporation, financial institutions and professional service firms. For more information on upcoming events, please visit www.acg.org/connecticut.