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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Pender Newkirk & Company Wins Small Business of the Year Award**

*The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce Recognizes Firm in the 51-250 Employee Category*

TAMPA, Fla. (October 4, 2010) – Pender Newkirk & Company, Certified Public Accountants is pleased to announce that the firm has been named by The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce as the 2010 Small Business of the Year in the category for businesses with 51-250 employees.

"We are elated with this recognition," said Ralph Garcia, Managing Partner. "For more than thirty-four years, Pender Newkirk has focused not only on our growth as a firm, but also on the development and economic sustainability of the Tampa Bay region. To have that commitment recognized by the Chamber is an honor."

The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce announced the winners of the 2010 Small Business of the Year Awards at a ceremony on Friday, September 24, at the Tampa Convention Center. More than 750 attendees celebrated the accomplishments of Tampa Bay's small business community and toasted the evening's big winners.

"A strong majority of businesses in our community are small businesses. As a vital piece of Tampa Bay's economic foundation, we agree that every nominated company deserves to be recognized and celebrated for their efforts."

This year's event was presented by the Bank of Tampa and represents the 30th year the Chamber has recognized this key segment of the region's economy. Small business awards were presented in three categories based on the number of employees. Companies are evaluated on financial success, community involvement and ethical business practices.

**About Pender Newkirk & Company**

Founded in 1976, Pender Newkirk & Company is a full service accounting and business consulting firm based in Tampa, Florida. With eleven partners and more than 60 professionals, the firm provides an array of services including audit and assurance, tax planning and preparation, Sarbanes-Oxley compliance, small business advisory, litigation support and management consulting services to clients across a broad range of industries. For additional information about the firm, the services we offer and our community involvement, please visit [www.pnccpa.com](http://www.pnccpa.com).

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