

For Immediate Release

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Katten and Greer & Walker to Host Fourth Annual Outlook on Charlotte Commercial Real Estate Event

Event will feature remarks by senior executives from Wells Fargo, Crosland Investment Services and Grandbridge Real Estate Capital

CHARLOTTE – The law firm of **Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP** and the accounting firm of **Greer & Walker, LLP** are pleased to host their fourth annual Outlook on the Commercial Real Estate Market event. The program will be held tomorrow, January 26, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at The Westin Charlotte (601 South College Street). More than 375 guests are expected to attend what has become one of the premier annual events for the Charlotte real estate community.

The event will feature a panel discussion with **Mark Vitner**, Managing Director & Senior Economist at **Wells Fargo**; **Timothy B. Sittema**, President of **Crosland Investment Services**; and **Thomas S. Dennard**, CEO of **Grandbridge Real Estate Capital LLC**. They will discuss the current state of the industry in Charlotte and the Southeast, and what they believe 2011 will hold for the region's commercial real estate market. The speakers will also address available commercial real estate financing options as well as market predictions for the retail, manufacturing and service industries.

"2010 was a much better year than 2009, as we have started to see the debt capital markets open up again, at least for stabilized properties," said **Daniel S. Huffenus**, managing partner of Katten's Charlotte office and a member of the firm's Real Estate Finance Practice. "Sources of fresh equity with the need to de-lever commercial real estate assets seem to be coming off of the sidelines, albeit in a very measured way. In addition, cap rates have compressed a bit for most property types. These factors cause us to be cautiously optimistic about the prospects for commercial real estate in 2011."

"This event is a great opportunity for the real estate community to get together, network, and hear from experts about what's in store for the industry in 2011 and beyond," said Barry Leasure, a partner with Greer & Walker.

For the second consecutive year, in lieu of charging a registration fee for the event, Katten and Greer & Walker instead request that guests make a donation to Community Link. Community Link, which has served the Charlotte community for nearly 80 years, helps to break the cycle of poverty by enabling working poor individuals and families to obtain and sustain appropriate housing.

***MEDIA NOTE:** We are holding a limited number of seats at this event for the news media. Please RSVP to Jason Milch at jmilch@jaffepr.com.*

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Founded in Charlotte in 1984, Greer & Walker, LLP provides audit, accounting, tax and business advisory services to a diversified client base of middle-market companies and not-for-profit organizations with operations throughout the Carolinas and around the world. Affiliates include Greer & Walker Investment Advisors, LLC and Greer & Walker Corporate Finance, LLC. For more information about the firm, call 704.377.0239 or visit the Greer & Walker, LLP website at www.greerwalker.com.