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**HOOD & STRONG LLP Supports Stand Up Against Poverty**  
Leading Bay Area Accounting Firm to Participate in October 16-18 Program

**SAN FRANCISCO, CA, October 14, 2009** – Robert J. Raffo, Managing Partner of Hood & Strong LLP, one of the Bay Area’s leading accounting, wealth management, and business consulting firms, announced today that the firm’s partners and staff would be participating in the 2009 Stand Up Against Poverty global program.

Stand Up Against Poverty is a campaign led by the UN and it will take place this year on October 16-18, when millions of people from around the world will be showing their support for the global fight against poverty. Last year, a record breaking 116 million people stood up and took action to end poverty and help achieve the Millennium development goals. Through this movement, Stand Up Against Poverty also set and broke the Guinness World Record for the largest mobilization around a single cause in recorded history.

According to Raffo, “We have set 10:00AM this Friday October 16<sup>th</sup> as a time for each of our partners and staff to take a 10 minute break wherever they are, and reflect individually or in a group on what it is our firm could do within its volunteer and community services programs to be supportive of the Stand Up Against Poverty ideals in areas such as helping to eliminate poverty, global warming issues, health care and educational advancement as well as any other efforts our employees would like the entire firm to engage in.”

Citing Hood & Strong’s rich 92+ year history of giving back to the community Raffo added, “This program is consistent with the legacy of service that our firm has become known for. We look forward to our partners and staff input and will be announcing specific initiatives that we will be undertaking based on their recommendations very shortly.”

**About Hood & Strong:** Hood & Strong was founded over 92 years ago in 1917 on the premise of delivering high-quality accounting services to prominent individuals and family-owned companies. The firm’s book of business represented the “who’s who” of early California entrepreneurs, who built name companies and became noted philanthropists as well. Since 1917, Hood & Strong has grown to serve the comprehensive financial needs of a diverse range of clients throughout the Greater Bay Area, offering a full complement of tax, audit, business advisory and consulting as well as wealth management services from offices in San Francisco, Redwood Shores and San Jose.

For more information, please visit [www.hoodstrong.com](http://www.hoodstrong.com)