



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**HOOD & STRONG LLP NAMED A BEST CPA FIRM FOR WOMEN
BY ASWA AND AWSCPA**

*Benchmarking Study Ranks Firms on Criteria Focused on Removing Barriers for Women
in the Workplace.*

San Francisco and San Jose, CA, April 29, 2010- Hood & Strong LLP, a leading regional CPA firm founded in 1917, with offices in San Francisco, San Jose and Redwood Shores was named today as one of the “Best Accounting Firms for Women” by the American Society of Women Accountants and the American Woman’s Society of CPA’s. In selecting Hood & Strong for this honor the ASWA and AWSCPA stated “Size is no barrier to excellence. Women often thrive at smaller firms where they can be mentored by partners and see up close exactly what it takes to get to the top. Case in point: Hood & Strong, where 53% of the firm’s partners are women. That has catalyzed a culture that moves women into business development early in their careers”. According to the study what makes an accounting firm Best for Women are top –notch programs and proof those programs actually retain and advance women.

The 2010 Accounting MOVE Project list of Best Accounting Firms for women is drawn from the 20 firms that participated in the inaugural cycle of the 2010 Accounting MOVE Project in a first ever benchmarking report that measured the status of women in accounting and outlined ways they can advance. Firms were ranked on the range, depth and success of programs and workplace culture proven to remove barriers to women’s success, especially at mid-level and above. The MOVE methodology pivots four factors—money, opportunity, vital supports for work/life and entrepreneurship—known to advance women in the workplace.

Robert J. Raffo, Managing Partner of Hood & Strong on learning of the firm being named as a Best CPA Firm for Women commented, “We are very pleased to receive this recognition. At Hood & Strong we have a long history of advancing women right up to partner level and are proud of that legacy.”

Hood & Strong LLP was founded 93 years ago on the premise of delivering high-quality accounting services to prominent individuals and family-owned companies. Since 1917, the firm has grown to serve the comprehensive financial needs of clients throughout the Greater Bay Area, offering a full complement of tax, audit, business consulting and wealth management services from offices in San Francisco, Redwood Shores and San Jose. For more information about Hood & Strong LLP, please visit www.hoodstrong.com.