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For Immediate Release

Hood & Strong LLP Names Robert J. Raffo New Managing Partner

Raffo is Sixth Managing Partner to Lead Bay Area Accounting Firm

October 1, 2008, San Francisco – Hood & Strong LLP announced today that Robert J. Raffo, CPA, has been named managing partner of the Bay Area accounting firm with offices in San Francisco, Redwood Shores, and San Jose. The firm, which was established in 1917, has experienced accelerated growth in the past few years; this year alone Hood & Strong grew its number of accountants by 20 percent and forecasts hiring at the same level for the remainder of 2008.

Raffo joined Hood & Strong in 1977 as a staff auditor and rose to partner in the audit practice and partner-in-charge of the Peninsula and San Jose offices and was one of the firm's founders of the not-for-profit service group. Raffo is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the California Society of Certified Public Accountants, as well as a board member of a number of charitable organizations.

Raffo assumes the helm from Robert Docili, who served as managing partner for 15 years. Docili will continue to serve his many long time clients as well as play an integral role as a member of the firm's strategic planning group.

"I want to thank my partners for the honor to lead Hood & Strong and look forward to working with our strategic planning group and our leadership to continue the successful course Bob Docili has placed us on," said Raffo, "We will continue to offer quality, responsive client service that is the hallmark of our firm, while continuing to build our services in new areas."

Hood & Strong's growth has been driven by new service offerings beyond tax and audit services, including fraud services, Sarbanes-Oxley consulting services, international tax services, wealth management and additional specialization in the private equity, life sciences and technology industries. The firm is also a member of the RSM McGladrey network, a group of top national and international accounting and consulting firms.

Additionally, Hood & Strong stands apart as a firm that maintains strong ties to the Bay Area community through its Charity Awareness program, volunteer activities and paid time off for employees who volunteer. The firm is also strongly committed to diversity, with 56% of its partner group and close to 80% of its manager group comprised of women and minorities.

About Hood & Strong LLP

Hood & Strong LLP is a certified public accounting firm, serving the Bay Area since 1917, with offices in San Francisco, Redwood Shores and San Jose. The firm provides tax, consulting, audit and business advisory and wealth management services to individuals, privately-held businesses and not-for-profit organizations. More information on the firm can be found at www.hoodstrong.com