



For Immediate Release

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**DAVIES NAMED PUBLIC AFFAIRS AGENCY OF THE YEAR,
BEST AGENCY TO WORK FOR
Firm Completes Record Year, Receives Accolades from Industry**

SANTA BARBARA, CALIF. – April 4, 2007 – On the heels of a record-breaking year, featuring more than two-dozen major successes for clients and a 53% revenue growth, DAVIES was recognized with two distinguished national awards, The Public Affairs Agency of the Year and The Best Agency to Work For by *The Holmes Report*.

DAVIES is a leading public affairs firm with specialty practices in Real Estate, Healthcare, and Energy & Natural Resources, and the firm was honored with these distinctions after tripling revenues and staff in just five years.

“Five years ago, our leadership team developed a strategic plan with ambitious growth objectives, to become the most respected value-driven public affairs agency in the country,” said chairman and chief executive officer John Davies. “We knew the foundation to achieve this goal was to invest in our people, and to focus on and grow our core competencies and practice areas to benefit our clients.” He added, “The results our clients have achieved together with these two awards are a great recognition of the enormous job our management team has done in carrying this vision forward in every facet of our business.”

Since 2002, DAVIES has grown from \$3.5 million in revenues to \$12 million, expanding its reach nationwide. In the last two years alone the firm has serviced clients in 32 states and is preparing to establish a presence on the East Coast with a new team and office. The firm’s growth is due to an intense focus and a highly specialized approach to issues management and grassroots public affairs, coupled with senior level involvement in every client. “What we do is not easy work. To succeed it is hard work, taking a lot of thought along with a relentless demand for quality,” added Davies.

The revenue growth has followed a growth in staff expertise and numbers, tripling in size to nearly 50 employees in three California locations. “We not only attract the best candidates to work at DAVIES, we provide a more competitive compensation and training and professional development package than most in our industry, allowing us to retain our staff,” said president and chief operating officer Brandon Edwards. “We strive to be the Best Agency to Work For and it’s great when our own employees are proud of what we’ve created together.” The Best Agency to Work For is based on anonymous employ survey responses on dozens of criteria.

This is the first year DAVIES has been recognized as both Agency of the Year and the Best Agency to Work For in the same year. In fact, DAVIES has been named Agency of the Year twice since 2004 and been honored as one of the Best Agency to Work For three years in a row this year ranking number one by *The Holmes Report*, a leading trade publication.

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Regarding its selection of DAVIES as Public Affairs Agency of the Year, *The Holmes Report* said, “DAVIES has carved out a unique positioning in the public affairs market by specializing in helping organizations deal with the not-in-my-backyard sentiment that can derail major construction efforts even after legislative hurdles have been cleared.”

On the topic of DAVIES’ pick as the Best Agency to Work For, the report added, “There’s a fine line between a high-performance, entrepreneurial culture and a culture of rampant individualism. It’s a line California public affairs firm DAVIES has managed to stay on the right side of as it has grown its business in recent years, more than doubling in size over the past five years without ever sacrificing the things that made it special. It attracts motivated, driven professionals by offering them intellectually challenging assignments (and above average compensation) and it keeps them by providing a first-rate work environment, proving its commitment by releasing some very talented and productive people because they weren’t right for the culture.”

DAVIES ranks among the fastest growing strategic communications firms in the United States, and recently was ranked the third largest firm in the state and the 31st largest in the country. The firm employees nearly 50 professionals in Santa Barbara, Los Angeles, and Sacramento, and can be found online at www.DAVIESPublicAffairs.com.

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