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FIRM RECEIVES TWO NATIONAL AWARDS

Whalen & Company has won two national awards in recognition of the firm's focus on providing "Five-Star" service to clients and for the quality of the firm's management staff.

Enterprise Worldwide presented the awards to the firm's partners at its annual convention in June. The firm is a member of the organization, an alliance of independent accounting firms.

Whalen & Company won in the categories of Top Marketing Initiative and Top Firm Administrator. The former category honors the most creative and productive marketing initiative or campaign.

The Top Firm Administrator category honors the individual who has made major contributions to his or her firm by implementing and overseeing programs that contribute to the firm's long-term growth; help the firm meet its strategic goals; improve the firm's profitability; help create an employee-friendly culture; and emphasize the value of entrepreneurship, continuous learning, marketing and client-service skills.

The top marketing honor was awarded for a 10-week campaign to support the firm's team members and their work with clients from February through mid-April while reinforcing the importance of Five-Star client service, excellence and teamwork.

The project, called Le Tour de Whalen, used a bike-race theme. The virtual route was created to take firm members through or near the cities and towns of the firm's business and individual clients in Ohio and neighboring states.

The circular tour, which passed through 93 cities, covered a total of 2,010 miles, ending in Worthington on April 15.

Linda Nay, the firm's administrator and associate director since 2008, was selected as the Top Firm Administrator among Enterprise Worldwide's member accounting firms. She has been with the firm for 25 years and has served as receptionist, administrative support specialist and office manager.

Linda is part of the firm's leadership team and coordinates a monthly management team meeting where directors and managers address projects that affect the entire firm and enhance Five-Star service for clients.

In her role as firm administrator, she prepares the firm's financial statements, helps develop the budget and administers payroll. She also serves as the firm's human resource director and is instrumental in maintaining staff morale and reinforcing the firm's Five-Star service culture, qualities which she embodies.

She also manages the administrative department and oversees the work of three staff members. She has developed a strong departmental team that sees its role as serving the needs of staff and creating an environment where staff are respected and recognized for their contributions.

"We are extremely gratified to have been selected for these national awards, especially when competing for the honors with so many outstanding CPA firms across the country," Laura Wojciechowksi said. "These awards recognize the importance the firm places on providing quality service to our clients and to hiring and retaining quality personnel."

Membership in Enterprise Worldwide gives Whalen & Company additional resources to provide the best possible service to clients. Member firms offer innovative business solutions in a range of specialties.

About Whalen & Company

Whalen & Company, CPAs and Consultants is a full-service CPA firm in Columbus, Ohio (suburban Worthington), providing tax advice for individuals and tax planning, accounting, audit, valuation and business consulting services for middle-market business clients. The firm's staff members have both technical skills and industry-specific knowledge that enable us to focus on the success of our clients. Our expertise includes restaurants and other hospitality businesses, manufacturing, education and other nonprofit organizations, retail and distribution, real estate, and nursing homes and other health-related businesses.