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**NMBC TO HOLD ITS SIXTH ANNUAL WOMEN'S BUSINESS LEADERSHIP
CONFERENCE UNDER THE THEME, "MAKING IT HAPPEN"
*Colgate-Palmolive Co. is the Lead Corporate Sponsor of the Event
Which Features Olympic Silver Medalist Bonnie St. John as Keynote Speaker***

October 2, 2008 (NEW YORK) – The National Minority Business Council, Inc., will hold its sixth annual Women's Business Leadership Conference on Thursday, October 16th, 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at The Bank of New York Mellon, 101 Barclay Street, New York City. With Colgate-Palmolive Co. as its lead corporate sponsor, the conference will bring together some 200 women entrepreneurs and corporate decisionmakers under the theme, "Making It Happen." Bonnie St. John, 1984 Olympic silver medalist in skiing and CEO of Courageous Spirit, Inc., will be the keynote speaker and Geneive Brown Metzger, Consul General of Jamaica in New York and former chair of the NMBC's Women's Business Committee, will bring greetings from her office.

"Colgate-Palmolive supports minority and women-owned businesses because we believe that it is very important to support those who reflect our customer base. We're very pleased to participate in an initiative such as the NMBC's annual Women's Business Leadership Conference as an expression of our commitment to the growth and development of these businesses," said Jeannie Maddox, Colgate-Palmolive's manager of supplier diversity.

John F. Robinson, the NMBC's president and CEO, said: "The NMBC is honored to have Colgate-Palmolive as the lead corporate sponsor of this year's Women's Business Leadership Conference. We're also grateful to have the Business Council of Westchester, the National Association of Women Business Owners, the Financial Women's Association and New York City's Department of Small Business Services as our affiliate partners in this event. The tremendous economic and financial upheaval in our nation today and its potential impact on women-owned and other small and medium-size businesses makes their show of support especially meaningful."

Critical support for the conference is also being provided by conference vice-chairs Claire Scanlon, manager of The Bank of New York Mellon's Supplier Development Program, and Debra J. White, manager of Supplier Diversity at NY Power Authority.

"We're really excited about the conference and about hearing the keynote speaker, Bonnie St. John, who will be phenomenal. We especially want to thank Colgate-Palmolive for its sponsorship, as well as Claire Scanlon and The Bank of New York Mellon, which has been an

incredible supporter of this conference since its inception. We also express our gratitude to Debra White and the New York Power Authority for their generous support,” said Renée Brown, chair of the NMBC’s Women’s Business Committee and CEO of C.W. Brown Inc., a general contracting and construction management firm. “Our hope is that at the end of the day, everyone will feel they have the tools to go out and make it happen.”

Claire Scanlon said: “The NMBC’s Women’s Business Leadership Conference is the ideal program for The Bank of New York Mellon to host. We recognize the importance of women-owned businesses and the overall small business sector to the U.S. economy and are committed to supporting their development and growth.”

This year’s conference will offer a Communication Skills Program created by Michael L. O’Toole, a seasoned communications professional and adjunct professor at Fairleigh Dickinson University. The program covers the six areas of communication mastered or overcome by successful professionals and business owners: The 4 Minute Impression; Speaking the Language of Confidence; Making it Happen; Body Language; Barriers of Communication; and The Elevator Speech. Registration for the conference is required in advance and includes a continental breakfast buffet and the Awards Luncheon.

“On behalf of the NMBC’s Board of Directors, I congratulate the organization’s founders and members for presenting this hallmark conference for the sixth consecutive year, despite the constraints of the current economic and financial environment. This annual event is further testimony of the NMBC’s leadership and advocacy for the M/WBE community,” said NMBC Board Chairman Gregory S. Reid, Esq.

Founded in 1972 as a non-profit (501)(c)(3) corporation, the NMBC is dedicated to providing business assistance, educational opportunities, seminars, purchasing listings and related services to hundreds of businesses throughout the tri-state area and across the nation. For more information about and to register for the NMBC’s Women’s Business Leadership Conference, contact John F. Robinson at (212) 693-5050, e-mail nmbc@msn.com, or go to www.nmbc.org.

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