



Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CHAMBER NAMES VAN STRATEN 2010 ATHENA AWARD RECIPIENT

Green Bay, Wis.- (Sept. 13, 2010) - The Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce the 2010 ATHENA Award recipient – **Julie Van Straten, General Counsel for UnitedHealthOne, UnitedHealthcare’s individual line of business.**

During her nearly 20-year career with UnitedHealthcare and its predecessor organizations, Van Straten rose in the ranks, focusing on overseeing corporate and regulatory matters including governance and compliance, business development support, litigation and risk management, commercial transactions as well as insurance regulations. In her current role, Van Straten has served as a female business mentor within her segment as well as within the broader UnitedHealth Group’s Connections program, writes Nominator Ann Patteson, Davis & Kuelthau, Attorneys At Law.

“I am delighted to see Julie Van Straten’s accomplishments recognized in this manner because she personifies the ATHENA Award through her dedication to the community, with her focus on issues that impact women and girls,” said Patteson.

In spite of the very encompassing nature of her career, Van Straten has been a consistent leader in the community. She serves on the Women’s Fund of Greater Green Bay’s board of directors and executive committee and is currently the president-elect. In her role, she has, among other things, excelled in bringing younger professional women into the Women’s Fund fold and encouraging them and working with them as they assume leadership positions within the organizations, writes one of her nominators, Pat LaViolette. “She is a key leader in this organization that does so much for women and girls,” she writes.

Van Straten also serves on the board of directors and strategic planning committee for the Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce. And in the area of providing a valuable service, initiative and creativity to improve the community, Van Straten has stood out as a co-chair of the Greater Green Bay Area branding initiative, Better by the Bay. Since she joined that effort two years ago,

she assisted in transitioning the organization into a 501©3 organization with documented bylaws, reporting mechanisms, established committees, regular meetings and a measurable plan of action.

In May, Van Straten completed five years of service to the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation, having served on its board of directors, executive committee, strategic planning committee, governance committee and as board secretary. In addition, she has served on the board of directors for the American Foundation of Counseling Services and the Brown County United Way. And as a mother of three, she's also involved in her children's school, recently serving on the selection team for the new principal.

“As a wife and mother of three, Julie juggles an incredibly busy schedule and successfully does so with grace and humor,” writes LaViolette. “She openly discusses the challenges of trying to do it all and is a compassionate listener whenever someone needs a shoulder as they try to figure out the always challenging balancing act of career, family and home life.”

Van Straten earned her Juris Doctorate from Marquette University Law School and is a graduate of UW Green Bay, at which she received her bachelor's degree, Magna Cum Laude, with a distinction in her major, English. She is also a member of the Wisconsin Bar and American Bar Associations.

Award sponsor Wipfli LLP and 2009 ATHENA recipient Gail McNutt will present the award to Van Straten at the Chamber's annual meeting on Monday, Oct. 18. Details on the event are available at titletown.org or by calling 437-8704.

Each year, the ATHENA Award is given to a deserving man and woman who is a member of the Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce or employed by a member firm. The recipient must display outstanding commitment to their profession, to the advancement of women and to serving their community.

For more information about the ATHENA Award or the ATHENA Foundation, please call Lori Kaye Lodes, marketing & communications manager at 920-593-3423.

Established in 1882, the mission of the Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce is to promote economic and community development. Chamber programs include Advance, Partners in Education, Leadership Green Bay, Brown County Teen Leadership, Current--the Young Professionals Network, Good Government Council, the International Business Development Consortium and the Small Business Council.

For more information about the Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce and its programs, call 437-8704 or visit www.titletown.org.

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Established in 1882, the mission of the Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce is to serve as the focal point of economic and community development. Chamber programs include Advance, Partners in Education, Leadership Green Bay, Brown County Teen Leadership, Current Young Professionals Network, Good Government Council and the International Business Development Consortium.

For more information, call 920.437.8704 or visit titletown.org.

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