



The Braff Group Honored as a Finalist for Boutique Investment Banking Firm of the Year and as a Double Finalist for Healthcare/Life Sciences Deal of the Year

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The M&A Advisor, a leading publication dedicated to middle market merger and acquisition activity recently announced the finalists for the 5th Annual M&A Advisor Awards.

The Braff Group, a leading middle market health care merger and acquisition firm, was named as a finalist for Boutique Investment Banking Firm of the Year. Other finalists include Downer & Company, LLC, Financial Technology Partners, Provident Healthcare Partners, and UCC Capital Corporation. This marks the second consecutive year the firm has been honored as a finalist for this award.

Additionally, The Braff Group was named as a double finalist for Healthcare/Life Sciences Deal of the Year for its representation of Canadian Valley Medical Solutions, Oklahoma City, OK in its divestiture to Walgreens Homecare, Deerfield, IL, and its representation of Loving Care Agency, Fort Lee, NJ in its recapitalization by MTS Partners, New York, NY. Other finalists include the divestiture of Brandywine Senior Care, Inc., the acquisition of Addus HealthCare, Inc. by Eos Partners, L.P., the roll up of Precision Medical Engineering, RF Medical Devices and Neurotherm, Inc., and the contribution of the assets of THIN, Inc.'s subsidiary, Health Care Service Corporation, to Availity, LLC.

This marks the third consecutive year that The Braff Group has been so honored.

In 2004, the firm was awarded the Life Sciences (Biotech/Healthcare) Deal of the Year for its representation of LifePlus, a regional home care provider based in Raymond, NH. In 2005, the firm received the award for its representation of Northwestern Memorial's Homecare Division, Chicago, IL. This is also the second consecutive year that Chuck Gaetano, TBG Managing Director of Infusion Therapy, Specialty Pharmacy, and Home Medical Equipment, has had a transaction among the Healthcare M&A finalists. In addition to representing Northwestern in 2005, Mr. Gaetano headed the deal team representing Canadian Valley in 2006.

"We are honored to be recognized once again alongside some of the most accomplished middle market merger and acquisition firms in the nation" commented Dexter W. Braff, President of The Braff Group. "It is a tribute to the shared vision and commitment of everyone at the firm – to provide the most value enhancing M&A advisory services to our clients, with unflinching integrity, and to continue to seek out ways to improve our performance year in and year out."

The awards will be held at a black-tie event December 11th, 2006 at the New York Athletic Club in New York City.

About The Braff Group

The Braff Group is a leading middle market merger and acquisition firm that specializes in the home medical equipment, home health care, hospice, staffing, specialty pharmacy, infusion therapy, and eHealthcare market sectors. The firm provides merger and acquisition representation, strategic planning, and valuation services. Since being founded in 1998, The Braff Group has completed more than 90 transactions. In 2004 and 2005, The Braff Group was honored as one of the fastest growing companies in the Pittsburgh Region by the Pittsburgh Business Times in its annual ranking of the 100 fastest growing privately held firms in the area. Additionally, The Braff Group was awarded the 2004 and 2005 Healthcare Deal of the Year by the M&A Advisor, a leading publication dedicated to middle market merger and acquisition activity.

About the M&A Advisor

Since 1998, The M&A Advisor has been the leading information publisher delivering services that provide executives, M&A professionals, and others about the intricate world of buying and selling middle market companies. The company's products include The M&A Advisor Online (www.maadvisor.com); The M&A Advisor Conference series (www.maadvisor.com/conference); The M&A Alerts e-zine; special reports, software, and publications; and the virtual due diligence data rooms through Dealinteractive (www.dealinteractive.com). For further information, visit www.maadvisor.com, or call 1-877-99-MERGE (1-877-996-3743).

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