

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Fulcrum Group Selected as One of 25 First-Round Winners in
Fort Worth Business Plan Competition**

FORT WORTH, Texas— The Fulcrum Group announced today that it has been selected as one of 25 competitors to earn a spot in the Fort Worth Business Assistance Center's Fort Worth Business Plan competition. The competition is an opportunity for all BAC clients, businesses based or headquartered in Tarrant County, and/or residents of Tarrant County looking to start a business to receive training and coaching on strengthening their business and business plans. Twenty-five participants will have the chance to compete for awards, cash prizes, and business services from sponsors, valued at more than \$45,000!

Steve Meek, President of the Fulcrum Group said "The Fulcrum Group was founded during the scary business environment post-9/11 and the Fort Worth Business Assistance Center helped assuage some of the worry. I initially worked with the Service Core of Retired Executives (SCORE) at the FWBAC back in 2002, to create an initial business plan before starting Fulcrum Group."

According to representatives of The Fort Worth Business Assistance Center, they "help more than a thousand people each year with education, business training and identifying access to capital. This is our second year to offer this business plan competition, and we are excited about the opportunity to help Fort Worth area business owners in this capacity, which is made possible through the generous support of our sponsors and partner organizations."

This competition is made possible by Founding Sponsors Capital One Bank, The Alternative Board, Presenting Sponsor SalesMastery Consultants, Inc./Sandler Training, along with Media Sponsor the Fort Worth Business Press, Silver level Sponsor Whitley Penn, and support from FWBPC partners the Small Business Development Center for Enterprise Excellence, SCORE, Tarrant Small Business Development Center and the Texas Christian University Neeley School of Business MBA Program.

Mr. Meek added, "We are excited to be selected from the field of applicants. We have a strong customer service focus but look forward to any program might help us improve even more. We are part of several industry peer groups and anticipate the opportunity for learning and contributing to groups during the business plan process."

About The Fulcrum Group, Inc.

The Fulcrum Group provides advanced technology deployment and outsourced IT services based in Fort Worth, Texas. The Fulcrum Group is dedicated to helping small and medium-sized businesses (SMBs) achieve their long-term goals through its SPOT Managed IT Services program. The company works with businesses that seek to build, maintain and optimize their technology assets for predictable business outcomes.

About the FWBAC

The Fort Worth Business Assistance Center (BAC) is a division of the City of Fort Worth and is also a 501c3 non-profit entity. The BAC, founding in 1995, provides free start-up counseling, business planning assistance, low cost workshops on taxes, loans and more to entrepreneurs and small business owners. The BAC is located at 1150 South Freeway in Fort Worth.

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