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## **For Immediate Release**

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# **Barrier Advisors Opens Stamford, Conn. Office**

## ***Michael Lustbader Appointed Managing Director***

**DALLAS (July 14, 2009)** – Barrier Advisors, a nationally recognized financial advisory and restructuring firm, today announced the opening of the company’s East Coast office in Stamford, Conn. Michael Lustbader has been named managing director, and will be responsible for the Stamford office. He will concentrate on advising Barrier’s clients in restructuring transactions in the Greater New York area and on the East Coast.

With more than 20 years in finance and banking, Mr. Lustbader has extensive experience in bank group management, DIP (debtor in possession) lending, turnarounds, bankruptcies, 363 sales, asset based lending, acquisition financing, workouts, liquidations and acquisition integrations. He has also advised senior management as an observer on boards of directors, played active roles on creditor steering committees, and advised loan officers regarding troubled investments. Involved in numerous restructurings, including Delphi Automotive, Vertis Communications, Quebecor World, Nellson Nutraceutical, and Handleman Company, Mike has also advised clients in more than 75 lending relationships.

“We are absolutely delighted to have Mike Lustbader on the Barrier team,” said Kent Laber, president of Barrier Advisors. “Our increasing number of Greater New York clients made this the right move at the right time for Barrier.”

According to Jeff Jones, managing director, “Mike is well established within the East Coast financial community. His broad level of skill and experience in

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lending and restructuring will add value in the most demanding restructuring market in the U.S.”

“My goal is to further establish Barrier Advisors as one of the premier middle-market financial advisory and restructuring firms for East Coast business owners and their creditors. Barrier’s mix of restructuring, special situations investment banking and operations improvement is unique and delivers one stop shopping for our middle market clients,” noted Lustbader.

Prior to joining Barrier Advisors, Mr. Lustbader was a senior vice president at GE Capital Commercial Finance where he held numerous roles including being a senior member of the Restructuring Finance Group, running a \$2.1 billion portfolio, managing the domestic lending national operations group, managing the credit policies and procedures and collateral monitoring departments and co-leading two major GE acquisitions. Before working at GE Capital, Mr. Lustbader held various leadership and lending roles at The Bank of New York and Irving Trust Company.

Mr. Lustbader graduated with an MBA in finance from The University of Michigan, and a BBA in marketing and management from the State University of New York at Albany. He is Six Sigma Quality “greenbelt” trained and certified, and is a member of the Turnaround Management Association (TMA).

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**About Barrier Advisors:**

**A nationally recognized financial advisory firm with offices in Dallas, Texas and on the East Coast in Stamford, Conn., Barrier Advisors provides special situations investment banking and corporate restructuring services for middle-market companies and their stakeholders. Barrier successfully manages complex middle market-sized transactions for some of the largest, most demanding clients in the capital markets. For more information on Barrier’s services and capabilities, visit [www.barrieradvisors.com](http://www.barrieradvisors.com).**

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**Michael Lustbader**  
*Managing Director*  
*East Coast Operations – Barrier Advisors*