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For Immediate Release

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Oklahoma Business Intermediary John C. Johnson, CBI[®], MMAI[®], Fellow of the IBBA[®] Receives International Association's Premier Award for Service

Chicago – John C. Johnson, CBI, MMAI, of Bluestem Resources Group, LLC, in Tulsa, Oklahoma has received the esteemed Darrell Fouts M&A Award from the M&A Source[®] during its conference and Middle Market Expo held in conjunction with the International Business Brokers Association[®] (IBBA) Professional Development Conference.

Johnson received the award for outstanding leadership and visionary contributions in the M&A profession. Johnson joined the IBBA in 1989 and was a founder of the M&A Source in 1991. A recognized leader in his profession, he is uniquely distinguished in being the only person to have ever received each of the six highest honors and awards, both of nationally recognized professional certifications, and to have presided over both the IBBA and the M&A Source.

The award was established honoring Darrell Fouts, who was instrumental in creating the M&A Source. It recognizes those who provide exceptional leadership, effort, and vision in improving the M&A profession. Membership in the M&A Source is not a requirement for the award. Only three Darrell Fouts Awards have been presented in the organization's history.

About M&A Source: The M&A Source is the world's largest international organization of experienced, dedicated merger and acquisition intermediaries representing the middle market. It was established in 1991 to focus on issues, development and effectiveness of merger and acquisition professionals. There are currently over 200 affiliated intermediaries in the Americas, Europe, and Asia. For more, visit <u>www.masource.org</u> or call 888.686.4222.

About the IBBA: IBBA is the largest international non-profit association operating exclusively for entities engaged in business brokerage or mergers and acquisitions. The M&A Source is a specialty division of IBBA. Formed in 1983, there are 1,200 members across the US, Canada, Mexico, Asia, and Europe. IBBA advances education and development of the profession, educates business communities, and promotes the highest standards of ethical conduct. It sponsors two national conferences per year and collaborates with regional organizations to conduct grass roots programs benefiting business communities. For more, visit <u>www.ibba.org</u> or call IBBA at 888.686.IBBA.

About Bluestem Resources Group: Bluestem Resources Group, LLC, headquartered in Tulsa Oklahoma was founded in 1987. Bluestem's Business Wealth Counsel TM is a team of business advisors & advocates for wealth creation throughout the business ownership life cycle. Specialized skills include wealth building processes, business divestitures and acquisitions, exit preparations, managed owner transitions, and wealth stewardship. Services cover strategic initiatives, business appraisals, business brokerage and intermediary services. Bluestem has represented hundreds of client businesses in local and national markets. Bluestem's professionals are active contributors to business communities in multiple leadership positions. They are information resources on business valuation or strategy and the purchase or sale of businesses. For more, visit <u>www.BluestemResources.com</u> or call 918.749.4315.