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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Michael Minton Appointed to the Central Florida Partnership

Orlando, Florida -- Dean Mead announced today that Michael D. Minton, president, has been appointed to the Board of Directors of the Central Florida Partnership. Prior to his involvement with the Central Florida Partnership, Minton served on the Board of Directors of Orlando, Inc. (Orlando Regional Chamber of Commerce).

Minton practices in the area of Federal income, estate, and gift tax law and family business succession planning. In addition, he has developed a particular interest and special knowledge in agricultural and water management law. He serves as the chair of the firm's Agribusiness Industry Team.

Minton received his Masters of Law in Taxation from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, in 1982. He graduated, with honors, from the University of Florida Levin College of Law in 1981.

He has been recognized with numerous awards for his contributions to the legal profession including the Special Merit Award by the Florida Bar Tax Section in 2009. In addition, he was named among Florida's Legal Elite in *Florida Trend* magazine, *The Best Lawyers in America*, *Chambers USA* – America's Leading Business Lawyers, and *Florida Super Lawyers*.

Minton has been an instrumental leader in the Central Florida community for several years. One of his signature accomplishments involved the firm's support of a plan by Dr. Deborah German,

Dean, University of Central Florida's College of Medicine, to provide full scholarships for all 41 students in its inaugural class. Minton co-chaired the UCF Charter Class Scholarship Committee, and Dean Mead endowed the first scholarship, naming it for Robert W. Mead, Jr., a founding member of the firm and a longstanding legal adviser to Central Florida's medical community.

Minton is a Past Vice Chairman of the Governing Board for the South Florida Water Management District for the term lasting from 1997 – 2001. Currently, he serves on the Foundation Board of the Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute. He maintains several other civic, educational and professional leadership positions including: the Florida Bar Foundation, University of Florida College of Law Center Association, Inc., Florida Bar Tax Section and the Indian River State College Foundation.

About Dean Mead:

Dean Mead provides full-service legal representation to businesses and individuals throughout Florida. The firm has nearly 50 attorneys who are experienced in multiple practice areas including: tax, estate and succession planning, corporate, agribusiness, health care, real estate, general commercial litigation, employee benefits, bankruptcy and creditors' rights, and water law. The firm's offices are located in Orlando, Fort Pierce, Gainesville and Viera. For more information, please visit www.deanmead.com.

About the Central Florida Partnership:

The Central Florida Partnership is a collaborative of business and civic leaders committed to procuring a better tomorrow for Central Florida's seven counties – Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Polk, Seminole and Volusia. The leadership is united by a single, guiding principle that they have the power and the responsibility to make change happen, working together, through four lines of business, including: Orlando, Inc., *MyRegion.org*, BusinessForce, and Leadership Orlando as well as other key initiatives whereby the Central Florida Partnership is moving "ideas to results". For more information, please visit www.centralfloridapartnership.org.

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