

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

### **CrawfordEllenbogen Partner Honored**

Pittsburgh, PA, July 30, 2008 — Joan Ellenbogen has been selected as one of six finalists for the 2008 Athena Award. The ATHENA, presented by the Allegheny Conference on Community Development, recognizes extraordinary women and leaders based on their professional excellence, dedication to community service and their ability to assist other women attain professional excellence.



Joan's nomination was spurred by her work with Executive Women's Council (EWC) and the Women-on-Boards (WOB) Initiative. Joan served as EWC's President for two years, and now as Immediate Past President, chairs its WOB committee. She led the effort to create an online data base, "Women on Board," of women interested and qualified to sit on private and public boards. The committee's goal is to bridge the gap between qualified women and board placement opportunities, addressing the under-representation of women from the Pittsburgh region at the board level.

In the same spirit of Martha Mertz, founder of ATHENA International, Joan recognizes outstanding professional women in the community, and is an advocate to provide opportunities for them to move into leadership. Joan's support and inspiration for women to achieve their leadership potential, and her desire to create a boardroom that reflects reality, exemplify why she is an ATHENA award nominee.

Her business, professional and community activities include serving on the board of the Port Authority of Allegheny County, formerly chaired its Finance Committee and currently chairs its Stakeholder Relations Committee. She is past president and trustee of the Allegheny County Bar Foundation. She is also a past president of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) Pittsburgh Chapter, and the Pittsburgh Tax Club. Joan has previously served as Treasurer of the Allegheny County Bar Association and a member of its Board of Governors, a director of the Estate Planning Council, and a member of Pennsylvania Bar Association's House of Delegates. She also served on the Budget & Finance Committee of former County Executive Jim Roddey's Transition Team for Allegheny County.

"I am ," commented Ellenbogen on the award.

Ms. Ellenbogen is the managing partner at the CPA firm of CrawfordEllenbogen, where she has worked for over 30 years, and is the third generation of her family to hold that position.

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For more information, contact:  
Joan Ellenbogen  
CrawfordEllenbogen, LLC

Phone: 412-731-1500  
Fax: 412-731-9620  
E-mail: [jellenbogen@ce-cpa.com](mailto:jellenbogen@ce-cpa.com)  
Website: [www.ce-cpa.com](http://www.ce-cpa.com)