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**For Immediate Release**

**AAREP (African American Real Estate professionals) hosts Second Annual Cap Rates & Cocktails Award Dinner – Sponsored by Sage Development, LLC**

Event will honor recipient of the first Hugh Allen Light House Award

**Charlotte, N.C.** – Feb. 25, 2011- AAREP NC will host its second annual Cap Rates & Cocktails reception Thursday, March 3 at 5 p.m. to kick off the CIAA basketball tournament. This free event, which is being held at The Vue, 405 W. Fifth Street, will mark the first time the African American Real Estate Professionals of N.C. (AAREP NC) will present the Hugh Allen Light House Award.

The goal of AAREP NC is to lead in the intellectual, professional and economic development of African-American commercial real estate professionals. The Hugh Allen Light House Award is presented to an individual who serves as a beacon of light to diverse professionals seeking opportunities and advancement in the commercial real estate industry.

"AAREP NC is committed to providing much-needed experience, training and exposure to an emerging class of diverse commercial real estate practitioners," said Emmanuel Choice, Transactions & Investment Broker for Lincoln Harris and Vice President of the AAREP of Greater Charlotte.

Joel Ford, Board President of the Charlotte Housing Authority and Chair of the Mecklenburg Democratic Party, will be the event's guest speaker. Invited guests include the Washington DC, New York and Baltimore chapters of AAREP, as well as Charlotte Mayor Anthony Foxx, members of the City Council, Chamber of Commerce and other tastemakers and community leaders.

"The anchor of Charlotte's continued growth and success will be dependent upon diversity and inclusion," said Choice. "We are excited about presenting the first Hugh Allen Light House Award

**About AAREP NC**

African American Real Estate Professionals of North Carolina, Inc. is dedicated to advancing the interests of African Americans in the real estate industry, providing education for minority landowners, and promoting community development. As such, the organization is an advocate on issues related to the advancement of AAREP NC's constituency and agenda in the industry. Additional information is available at: <http://aarepnc.com>

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