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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DAWSON COMPANIES ANNOUNCES ACQUISITION OF QUALITY BENEFITS AGENCY, INC. (QBA) AND JAMES F. HARMON AS OHIO PRACTICE LEADER

New Employee Benefits Leadership of Dawson Companies to Drive Growth of Ohio Practice

Rocky River, OH (January 15, 2010) – Dawson Companies, a leading provider of insurance, surety, and employee benefits brokering and consulting services announces the expansion of its employee benefits leadership team with James F. Harmon as President and Ohio Employee Benefits Practice Leader.

“Over the past 80 years Dawson has enjoyed tremendous growth and today is a recognized market leader in insurance, surety, and employee benefits. We are privileged to welcome the Quality Benefits Agency, Inc. (QBA) team to Dawson,” said D. Michael Sherman, CEO, Dawson Companies. “With James assuming the leadership role, and the operating assistance of his partner, Elizabeth A. Karl, we have brought to Dawson some of the most experienced employee benefits talent in the Ohio Market. As we execute our employee benefits strategy, we will be the firm of choice for clients, professional talent and like-minded partners. Attracting firms like QBA is at the heart of that strategy,” he continued.

James F. Harmon says of the new Dawson, “We are very excited about the opportunity to join Dawson Companies. I believe Dawson’s reputation for integrity and expertise provides the best opportunity to create the premier employee benefits practice in Ohio.”

Kyp L. Ross, President of Dawson Insurance, Inc. stated, “Dawson Companies has emerged as a leader in the mid-market insurance brokering community, and we are excited that James and Liz have joined our Dawson Ohio management team.

ABOUT DAWSON COMPANIES

Since its 1931 founding, Dawson Companies has grown into one of America’s leading insurance and financial services brokerage firms. Dawson specializes in Property & Casualty Insurance, Surety Bonding, and Employee Benefits and is continually ranked as one of the top 100 brokers in the U.S. (*as ranked by Business Insurance magazine, based on 2008 revenue*).

Dawson Companies is a full-service, independent agency system that provides products and services from offices in Ohio, Florida, and Virginia, employing more than 200 insurance and benefit professionals. Clients range from Fortune 500 corporations, to privately-held businesses, non-profit agencies, healthcare institutions, professionals, individuals and their families.

To learn more visit www.DawsonCompanies.com

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