

## **For Immediate Release**

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### **Global Events Partners (GEP) and Krisam Group Open Office in the Raleigh-Durham Research Triangle**

- *GEP's Rachel Elliott Leads Sales and Service in Burgeoning Market for Meetings and Event Business; Tracey Lankford Manages Krisam Office -*

**Washington, D.C. . . . September 12, 2007** -- Global Events Partners (GEP) (www.globaleventspartners.com), the leading partnership of Destination Management Companies (DMCs) worldwide, announced that it opened an office in the rapidly growing Raleigh-Durham Research Triangle, in conjunction with its sister company, Krisam Group (www.krisam.com).

The GEP office is led by Rachel Elliott, Senior Vice President who has been part of GEP senior management since the company's founding more than ten years ago. Tracey Lankford is the Krisam representative. Elliott and Lankford are based in the Raleigh-Durham area and will support existing clients throughout North Carolina and develop new business opportunities for GEP Partners and Krisam member hotels, respectively. Both relocated to Raleigh from the corporate office in Washington, D.C.

Chris White, GEP's Chairman and Chief Executive, and Krisam's Founder and Chief Executive, said, "We are delighted to announce our presence in the important Raleigh-Durham market, and surrounding areas." He concluded, "Under Rachel's leadership, we anticipate developing tremendous opportunities for GEP Partners worldwide. Similarly, we look forward to Tracey's continued efforts on behalf of Krisam's member hotels and clients."

### **A Market Ripe for GEP**

"Raleigh-Durham is home to some of the most important and fastest-growing companies in the country," said Elliott. She concluded, "Having several supportive and enthusiastic clients in the market already, I am pleased to lead GEP's office and anticipate developing many new business opportunities for our Partners around the world in the months ahead."

GEP clients in the Raleigh-Durham market include many of the Triangle's major pharmaceutical, biotech and financial institutions.

Contact information for GEP's Raleigh-Durham office, is:

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In addition, the new GEP office will also work closely with an office recently opened by GEP Partner Atlanta Arrangements ([www.atlantaarrange.com](http://www.atlantaarrange.com)), which will provide local DMC services in the Greater Raleigh-Durham market and beyond. The company will be called, Carolina Arrangements.

A Destination Management Company, or DMC, is a professional service company possessing extensive local knowledge, expertise and resources; specializing in the design and implementation of events, activities, tours, transportation and program logistics. GEP partners provide consistently high quality DMC services in the most desirable locations worldwide.

### **Krisam Group Adds Research Triangle to Growing Number of Locations**

GEP's sister company, Krisam Group, also added an office in the Raleigh-Durham market. It is led by Krisam veteran Tracey Lankford, who can be reached at the address above, (919) 847-7860 or [tracey\\_lankford@krisam.com](mailto:tracey_lankford@krisam.com).

Lankford said, "I am delighted to help continue Krisam's growth, by serving hotel members and our clients in the Research Triangle." She concluded, "Our existing clients and new business development opportunities make it an exciting time to be in Raleigh-Durham."

Lankford has been with Krisam for more than eight years. Krisam clients in the market include RBC Centura Bank and Universal Meeting Management. The new office follows the announcement of Krisam's new European office earlier this year. Krisam Group is the pioneering national sales company for independent and unique hotels worldwide.

**About Global Events Partners (GEP)**

Launched in 1999, Global Events Partners includes more than 70 leading destination management companies (DMCs) around the world. A DMC is a professional services company possessing extensive local knowledge and resources, specializing in the design and execution of group tours, transportation, events, activities and program logistics. GEP partners provide consistently high quality DMC services in the most desirable locations worldwide. Thanks to affiliations with sister company, Krisam group – the top independent national sales office for hotels –, and production company August Jackson, GEP offers a unique “one-stop” solution for corporate meeting planners worldwide. For more information on GEP, please visit [www.globaleventspartners.com](http://www.globaleventspartners.com).

**About Krisam Group**

Krisam Group, a membership organization since 1975, is the top independent national sales office for hotels, and the leading advocate and service provider for meeting planners worldwide. For more information on Krisam Group, please visit [www.krisam.com](http://www.krisam.com).

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