

# HOWARD, MERRELL & PARTNERS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Howard, Merrell & Partners Hires Maria Martinat as  
Public Relations Account Coordinator**

**RALEIGH, N.C. – June 23, 2010** – Maria Martinat is the latest addition to the public relations department at Howard, Merrell & Partners. She is an Account Coordinator at the agency providing support on multiple pieces of business.

Martinat has gained experience in public relations from her past internships at Governor Beverly Purdue's office and at NBC 17 in Raleigh. She also interned with Howard, Merrell & Partners in 2009 before joining the agency this year.

“We found out how great Maria is while she interned with us last summer,” explains Stephanie Styons, senior vice president of Public Relations and Social Media Marketing. “She is intelligent, resourceful and diligent. We are thrilled to have her back, now as a full-time employee.”

Martinat received her bachelor's degree of arts in communications and public relations, with a minor in journalism from North Carolina State University.

**About Howard, Merrell & Partners**

Raleigh, NC-based Howard, Merrell & Partners Inc., specializes in linking business and communications strategies to yield higher levels of financial performance for its clients. Founded by Jack Howard in 1945 and later reorganized as Howard, Merrell & Partners under Mac Merrell's leadership, the agency is a pioneer in understanding and applying the power of emotions to develop more effective business and communications strategies. Agency service offerings include brand development, creative development and production, consumer insight research, public relations, media asset services, event planning and management, social media, interactive services, Hispanic marketing and strategic planning.

Recent clients include BASF, Butterball, Canvas on Demand, Central Aquatics, CHD Meridian Healthcare, Cisco, Colonial Bank, Component Hardware Group, Doctors Vision Center, Georgia-Pacific Professional (Dixie<sup>®</sup> and enMotion<sup>®</sup>), Hewlett-Packard, Intertek, INVISTA (CORDURA<sup>®</sup> brand), Naughty Bits, NC Beautiful, O<sup>2</sup> Fitness, Oliver Twist Restaurant, ReSound, THOR•LO, UltraPet, and Zilla. The agency's work has been honored by, the Telly Awards, the Addys, Graphis, The London International Advertising Awards, The Communicator

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Awards, Sir Walter Raleigh Awards, Hermes Creative Awards, The InSpire Awards and the North American Precis Syndicate. For more information, visit <http://www.merrellgroup.com>.