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## Varnum Law Supports Small Business in Michigan

**November, 2011** – Varnum LLP became a 2012 underwriter of Michigan Celebrates Small Business (MCSB). Now in its eighth year, MCSB is the state's premier awards program acknowledging the best and brightest of small business leadership in Michigan.

"Varnum is supporting MCSB because we believe small businesses and entrepreneurs will play a significant part in Michigan's economic recovery," said Larry Murphy, Varnum's managing partner. "We recently committed \$1 million in free legal services to small and growing businesses through our MiSpringboard program. That commitment is a sign of our confidence in the future of small business."

Michigan Celebrates Small Business is a cooperative effort of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center, the Edward Lowe Foundation, Small Business Association of Michigan, the Greater Lansing Business Monthly and the U.S. Small Business Administration – Michigan.

"The MCSB event has grown in attendance from 400 guests in 2004 to 870 guests in 2011 and we're expecting 1,000 in attendance at this year's awards program," says Carol Lopucki, State Director of the Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center. "The success of MCSB is a direct result of underwriters like Varnum Law.

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2012 Michigan Celebrates Small Business awards program until November 10<sup>th</sup>. Individuals may nominate a company or companies may apply directly at <a href="www.michigancelebrates.biz">www.michigancelebrates.biz</a>. The winners will be honored at the 8<sup>th</sup> annual Michigan Celebrates Small Business event on April 26, 2012 in Lansing.

Michigan Celebrates Small Business is made possible with the generous support of PNC Bank, the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, DTE Energy Foundation, Comcast Business Class, Varnum Law, Michigan Certified Development Corporation, Accident Fund, Michigan Credit Union League and Dynamic Edge, Inc.

Media partners for Michigan Celebrates Small Business are MiBiz, Crain's Detroit Business, Upper Peninsula Business Today, the Traverse City Business News, the Greater Lansing Business Monthly, Corp! Magazine, MiTechnews.com, WWJ News Radio, Michigan Radio and WCMU Radio.

For more information regarding Michigan Celebrates Small Business contact Jennifer Deamud at the Michigan Small Business & Technology Development Center, managing partner of Michigan Celebrates Small Business – deamudj@gvsu.edu or 616-331-7482.