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Valley Brothers Win Car, Vacation and Cash in Health & Wealth Raffle Early Bird Draw

Experience at St. Joseph's Hospital and Barrow Neurological Institute drives brothers to enter Health & Wealth Raffle for first time

PHOENIX (March 24, 2010) – In July 2009, Raymon Howell broke his back in a work accident and received treatment at St. Joseph's Hospital and Barrow Neurological Institute. Eight months later, he saw a commercial for the Health & Wealth Raffle and decided to support the hospital that put him on the path to recovery. For the first time in his life, Raymon entered the Health & Wealth Raffle, splitting a three-pack of tickets with his brother Russell Howell.

The brothers were in for a surprise when Kathy Rice, executive director of the Health & Wealth Raffle, called Raymon yesterday to notify him he had won Early Bird Prize #1, which includes a 2010 Toyota Prius, seven-day Greek Island vacation and \$11,000.

"I didn't know what to say; I thought she [Rice] was joking!" said Raymon.

Raymon is recovering from his injury and has not yet returned to work, but his luck seems to be turning around.

"Everything's starting to work out now, and we're deciding how to split our prize," Raymon said.

L. Wesson of Phoenix won Early Bird Prize #2, a road trip with the Phoenix Suns plus \$10,000.

The Early Bird prize draw took place just one week before the Raffle's final deadline of midnight, April 1. More than 4,700 prizes are left to win in the Health & Wealth Raffle for participants who enter before the final cutoff.

Grand Prizes

The Spring 2010 Raffle includes two top prizes:

- **Grand Prize #1** – A 3,350-square-foot T.W. Lewis luxury home and a 2010 Mercedes E350 Coupe. Prize package value: more than \$800,000
- **Grand Prize #2** – A beachfront condo in Puerto Penasco, and a 2010 Honda CRV EXL, plus a 2010 Sea Doo Jet Ski with trailer. Prize package value: more than \$430,000.

"As incredible as these prizes are, the Grand Prizes include a cash option, which is one of the features of the grand prizes that participants find most attractive," said Rice.

Raffle Tickets

Tickets are \$100 each, and every Raffle ticket has a one-in-18 chance of winning a prize.

The Internal Revenue Service deems that both the entries are not tax deductible and that corresponding taxes on prize values of \$5,000 or greater must be paid upon award and before receiving the prize.

Important Raffle Dates

Key dates remaining for the Spring 2010 Raffle include:

- Midnight, Thursday, April 1– cut-off to purchase tickets for the Final Prize Draw
- Thursday, April 8 – Final Prize Draw

How to Enter

To purchase tickets, please visit www.HealthWealthRaffle.org or call toll-free **1-866-390-9034** – 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Entries also may be purchased at kiosks located at St. Joseph's Hospital, 350 W. Thomas Road, in Phoenix.

About the Health & Wealth Raffle

The Health & Wealth Raffle is the first of its kind in Arizona and one of the largest fundraisers for St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center and Barrow Neurological Institute. Since its inception in 2003, the Raffle has served as a unique tool to raise much-needed funds in a short period of time. The biannual Raffle enables the hospital to fund research, medical education, and patient care. To date, more than 110,000 prizes have been awarded to Raffle participants, including 24 homes, nearly 350 trips, and more than 400 vehicles. Whenever possible, prizes are purchased in the state of Arizona. Tickets are \$100 and must be purchased in the state, but participants do not have to be residents of Arizona to win. To learn more about the Health & Wealth Raffle or to enter, visit www.HealthWealthRaffle.org.

About St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center and Barrow Neurological Institute:

Located in the heart of Phoenix, Arizona, St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center is a 697-bed, not-for-profit hospital that provides a wide range of health, social, and support services with special advocacy for the poor and underserved. St. Joseph's is a nationally recognized center for quality tertiary care, medical education, and research. It includes the internationally renowned Barrow Neurological Institute, the Heart & Lung Institute, St. Joseph's Children's Health Center, the only Lung Transplant Center in the Valley, and one of only two Trauma Centers in the state of Arizona with Level I verification from the American College of Surgeons. The hospital is also a respected center for maternity care, orthopedics, oncology, and many other medical services. *U.S. News & World Report* routinely ranks St. Joseph's among the best hospitals in the United States for neurology and neurosurgery.