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## **Awards Rank Kentucky's Best Places to Work**

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**LEXINGTON, Ky. (April 25, 2007)** – The Kentucky Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) state council and the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce announced yesterday the rankings (see attached list) for the third annual competition naming the “**2007 Best Places to Work in Kentucky**,” presented by Humana, Inc. The program is a multi-year initiative to move companies in the commonwealth to focus, measure and move their workplace environments toward excellence. Best Companies Group surveyed 83 participating companies and revealed the list of top 50 winners at a dinner and awards ceremony yesterday at the Lexington Convention Center.

The Best Places to Work in Kentucky initiative brings a local angle similar to the *Fortune* magazine’s list announcing the “100 Best Companies to Work for in America.” In addition to the positive effect the award has on employee relations and recruitment, the driving force for companies to participate in this program is the remarkable effect that workplace improvements can have on their bottom lines. Numerous studies show a strong correlation between profitability and creating a good place to work.

“The goal of Best Places to Work in Kentucky is to raise the bar among the state’s employers and create the kind of excellence and employee satisfaction in the workplace that will attract talented people for years to come. This initiative is integral for Kentucky to compete in both national and global arenas,” says Pam Cox, Chair, Kentucky SHRM Council.

Winners were selected from two categories, featuring medium-sized companies of 25 to 249 employees and large-sized companies consisting of 250 employees or greater. The selection process is based on an assessment of the company’s employee policies and procedures and the results of an internal employee survey. This process is managed by Best Companies Group, with the research and list selection conducted by ModernThink LLC. The survey feedback that all participating companies receive will enable them to develop the plans and implement the steps necessary to create a great workplace and continue to improve the performance of their business.

(more)

The 2007 Best Places to Work in Kentucky rankings are as follows:

**Large Companies** (250 employees or greater)

1	SurePoint Lending Dbn First Residential Mortgage	Louisville
2	Edward Jones	Louisville
3	Frankfort Regional Medical Center	Frankfort
4	SouthEast Telephone	Pikeville
5	Georgetown Community Hospital	Georgetown
6	First Federal Savings Bank	Elizabethtown
7	Stites & Harbison PLLC	Louisville
8	Central Baptist Hospital	Lexington
9	Pikeville Medical Center	Pikeville
10	Fischer Homes	Crestview Hills
11	King's Daughters Medical Center	Ashland
12	Baptist Hospital East	Louisville
13	Central Bank & Trust Co.	Lexington
14	Kindred Healthcare, Corporate Office	Louisville
15	Saint Joseph HealthCare	Lexington
16	Gallatin Steel Company	Ghent
17	Yum! Brands, Inc.	Louisville
18	National Patient Account Services Inc.	Louisville
19	New Mather Metals, Inc.	Franklin
20	Stoll Keenon Ogden PLLC	Lexington
21	Commonwealth Hotels	Covington
22	Somerset Community College	Somerset
23	Norton Healthcare	Louisville
24	Wyatt, Tarrant & Combs, LLP	Louisville
25	Hilliard Lyons (J.J.B. Hilliard, W. L. Lyons, Inc.)	Louisville

**Medium Companies** (25 to 249 employees)

1	Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney, PLLC	Lexington
2	Dean, Dorton & Ford, PSC	Lexington
3	Chilton & Medley PLC	Louisville
4	Beazer Homes USA, Inc.	Lexington
5	Fellon-McCord & Associates, Inc., a Constellation Energy Company	Louisville
6	Benefit Insurance Marketing	Lexington
7	Independence Bank	Owensboro
8	Paul Schultz	Louisville
9	Atmos Energy Corporation-Kentucky Division	Franklin
10	Employment Plus	Bloomington
11	Appriss Inc.	Louisville
12	Woodward, Hobson & Fulton, LLP	Louisville
13	Lexington Diagnostic Center & OPEN MRI	Lexington
14	Summit Energy	Louisville
15	KORT Kentucky Orthopedic Rehab Team	Louisville
16	Citizens First Bank	Bowling Green
17	Our Lady of the Way Hospital	Martin
18	Bluegrass Community Hospital	Versailles
19	Catholic Health Initiatives-Northern Kentucky Office	Erlanger
20	Thompson Associates, Inc.	Louisville
21	Crowe Chizek and Company LLC	Indianapolis
22	Kentucky Employers' Mutual Insurance	Lexington
23	Dollar Thrifty Automotive Group	Tulsa
24	Gray Construction	Lexington
25	ZirMed, Inc.	Louisville

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