



## **CASTLEOAK SECURITIES ANNOUNCES THE ADDITION OF TWO INVESTMENT BANKING PROFESSIONALS**

**New York, NY – (February 4, 2010)** - CastleOak Securities, L.P., announced today that two senior investment banking professionals, Derrick Williams and Vishal Damani, collectively with more than 35 years experience in financial advisory and corporate finance, have joined CastleOak’s growing team as Managing Directors of Investment Banking.

David R. Jones, President and Chief Executive Officer, said, “As CastleOak continues to grow we continue to hire seasoned client relationship professionals who share our commitment to focusing on the needs and objectives of our clients. Derrick and Vishal further strengthen our already robust investment banking and financial advisory team and our business as a whole.”

Mr. Williams, who will be based in CastleOak’s Atlanta office, is a financial advisory and corporate finance banker with a focus on middle market banks and financial institutions. He has extensive experience providing a full range of M&A and public and private capital raising services. Previously, Mr. Williams was a Director in Investment Banking at Robert W. Baird & Co. where he co-founded the financial services group. Prior to joining Baird, he was a Principal in Investment Banking at Legg Mason where he focused on small and middle market financial services clients. He also held investment banking positions at SunTrust Robinson Humphrey and UBS. Mr. Williams has a bachelor’s degree from Yale University and an MBA from the University of Virginia’s Darden School of Management.

Mr. Damani, based in the firm’s New York office, is a consumer, retail, and healthcare coverage banker with corporate finance, capital markets, strategic and financial advisory experience. He has worked with clients in the food and beverage, personal care, household products, apparel, restaurants, retail and healthcare sectors. Prior to joining CastleOak, Mr. Damani was a Senior Vice President in Global Banking at HSBC Securities where he managed global relationships for Fortune 500 clients. He also held positions in the Capital Markets Group at PepsiCo, was a Vice President in the Corporate Finance Group at Deloitte & Touche, and worked as an Investment

Banking Associate at Morgan Stanley. Mr. Damani has a bachelor's degree from Columbia University and an MBA from New York University's Stern School of Business.

**About CastleOak Securities, L.P.**

CastleOak Securities, L.P. is a leading boutique investment bank with an extensive suite of financial services including equity sales and trading, fixed income sales and trading, and financial advisory services. The firm offers clients expertise in primary and secondary market transactions, advice on mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, valuations and general strategic assessments. Based in New York, with regional offices in Chicago and Atlanta, CastleOak is managed by a team of seasoned investment bankers who provide innovative, client-driven solutions that leverage their extensive professional experience, strong institutional relationships and keen market insight.

For more information, please visit [www.castleoaklp.com](http://www.castleoaklp.com).

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