

**For Immediate Release**

**For Information**

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**RICHARDSON PLOWDEN SUPPORTS A CLIMBER WITH A CAUSE**

COLUMBIA, S.C., July 12, 2007 – – A local nurse has climbed with a cause. In late May, Patrick Hickey, a registered nurse and University of South Carolina College of Nursing faculty member, successfully reached the top of Mount Everest to let people know about the United States' nursing shortage and to raise money to train new nurses. Richardson Plowden has contributed a Mt. Kilimanjaro level amount. To give to the cause, visit <http://www.sc.edu/everest/>.

Hickey is raising \$29,035—a dollar for each foot of altitude of Mount Everest—for the Summit Scholarship Program. Established by the College, the program will fund nursing

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scholarships for students. Every year, nursing programs in South Carolina turn away qualified students because of a lack of faculty and funding. In 2001, Hickey began climbing the world's seven highest summits as a personal quest. Since joining USC's faculty in 2005, he now climbs to bring attention to the nursing shortage in S.C., which is forecast to reach 6,700 by 2020. Mount Everest was his last summit to reach.

Richardson Plowden Shareholder, Bill McDow said the decision to contribute was an easy one. "With our experience practicing healthcare and medical malpractice defense law, we understand the reality of the nursing shortage and the impact it has on the state's economy and quality of life. Much is at stake here. We fully support Pat's efforts to raise money for scholarships."

**About Richardson Plowden**

Established in 1973, Richardson, Plowden, Carpenter & Robinson, P.A., is among the 15 largest law firms in South Carolina, with more than 30 attorneys in offices in Columbia and Myrtle Beach. A full service law firm, Richardson Plowden has more than 25 practice areas providing legal counsel to local, state and national clients. For more information, visit [www.RichardsonPlowden.com](http://www.RichardsonPlowden.com).