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**PRESS RELEASE**  
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**DHR INTERNATIONAL PLACES PRESIDENT AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FOREST  
PARK FOREVER**

**ST. LOUIS, November 2007** – After a comprehensive nationwide search, DHR International has placed Frank Hamsher as President and Executive Director of Forest Park Forever. The search was led by James Abruzzo, Managing Director of the Nonprofit Practice and Executive Vice President of DHR International.

Mr. Hamsher joins Forest Park Forever after almost 16 years with Fleishman-Hillard, where he was Senior Vice President and Partner. His broad consulting expertise has included civic policy, public affairs and legal communications counsel for a wide range of clients, including Civic Progress. Prior to joining Fleishman-Hillard, Mr. Hamsher spent a decade each as a high-level city government official and in law practice. Mr. Hamsher begins his new role on January 2, 2007.

Mr. Hamsher is a graduate of Princeton University and the Yale Law School, and attended the state and local government program of the Kennedy School at Harvard. He has also taught at the University of Missouri-St. Louis and Saint Louis University Law School. In 1992, he was an official international observer for the national election in Kenya.

Mr. Hamsher serves on the boards of the Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis, the Downtown St. Louis Partnership, the United Way, and New City School. He has served on various other community boards, including FOCUS St. Louis and Mentor St. Louis, and was a founding member of the FOCUS Bridges Across Racial Polarization program.

Forest Park, known as the “Jewel of St. Louis” is a 1,370-acre park that houses major cultural institutions including the Saint Louis Art Museum, History Museum, Zoo, Municipal Opera and the Science Center, as well as numerous recreational facilities. It has also been called the soul of St. Louis, the community’s gathering place, and the “regional backyard.” Following their capital campaign raising over \$100 million, Forest Park is poised to become known as one of the nations premier urban parks.

The search was conducted on multiple levels. “Initially we identified qualified candidates from other city parks, botanical gardens, and zoos. After the search committee reviewed the backgrounds of nationally known executives from Chicago, Tucson, New Orleans and New York City, it realized that the ideal executive director could be found in the local community - someone who knew the politics and government, the civic organizations, and the top business leaders in St. Louis,” said James Jordan, the researcher for DHR International who worked on the search.

“We are thrilled to have someone of Frank’s experience and knowledge of the community join our staff,” said John Ferring, Chairman of Forest Park Forever. “We are confident that Frank is the right person to lead this organization through this time of opportunity and great promise.”

Of his new position, Mr. Hamsher stated, "As a long time Forest Park user and supporter, I am grateful to be able to work to promote the park's future every day. Forest Park Forever has done an incredible job, raising almost \$75 million in private funds to rebuild the park and attracting more than 10,000 members who support the park with their contributions. Forest Park Forever, working with the city and the community, has a crucial role in protecting one of our region's most vital gathering places. Enthusiasm for the park is terrific, and I look forward to working with people throughout the community to take this public-private partnership to the next level."

Founded in 1986, Forest Park Forever is a private, nonprofit organization working in partnership with the City of St. Louis and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry to make Forest Park a premier American urban park. This is accomplished through extensive restoration, preservation, maintenance, education and outreach efforts.

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