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FRC ANNOUNCEMENT

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Founder of AnnuityIQ.com to Lead FRC's Variable Annuity Practice

***August 7, 2007, Boston, MA* — Financial Research Corporation is pleased to announce the recent hiring of Mr. Scott DeMonte as Director of Variable Annuities research.** In this position, Scott will be responsible for research and analysis of variable annuity products and market trends and in providing detailed advisory services to FRC's insurance and variable annuity clients.

Mr. DeMonte brings over 14 years of financial services experience and knowledge to FRC. With his extensive knowledge of variable annuities and the insurance industry, Scott will lead the delivery of forward-thinking, high-quality analyses to FRC's clients. In this role, Scott reports to Luis Fleites, Vice President and Director of Retirement Markets research.

“The retirement security challenge facing baby boomers is creating unprecedented growth opportunities for annuity providers,” commented Luis Fleites. “Scott is ideally positioned to assist our clients in capitalizing on these opportunities through his extensive distribution background and his keen understanding of the dynamics shaping the variable annuities market.”

Mr. DeMonte joins FRC from AnnuityIQ.com, which he founded. That firm provided one of the only variable annuity rating services available in the industry. Prior to launching AnnuityIQ.com, Scott was a regional vice president for Jackson National Life

and a regional marketing director for Hartford Life, two of the largest distributors of variable annuities in the United States.

Scott can be reached at (617) 824-1374 and also at *Scott.DeMonte@frcnet.com*.

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About Financial Research Corporation

Financial Research Corporation (FRC) provides the knowledge to build stronger relationships through product development and management, distribution solutions, and marketing strategies. For nearly 20 years, our insightful research and consulting services have been assisting marketing, product development, and strategic planning professionals in the creation of innovative products and services. Based in Boston, FRC is at the forefront of assisting its clients to comprehend and respond to the rapid changes occurring in the manufacture and distribution of investment products. Our more than 200 clients include the world's leading asset managers and distributors. For more information, visit the FRC Web site at www.frcnet.com.
