



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: October 28, 2008

For More Information: Lynn Pittman 619-542-1898 or lynnpittman@cox.net

ASPIRE IRB WINS THE 2008 WOMEN WHO MEAN BUSINESS GROUP AWARD

In 2004 a group of inspired women took a leap of faith, independently raised the capitol and started an IRB. Sales increase an average of 50% annually.

San Diego, CA - Over one thousand San Diego business professionals watched on as Michele Baptista, CFO, Alycia Huston, CEO and Charlotte Stewart, COO of Aspire, IRB, and independent review board were announced the San Diego Business Journal's choice for 2008's Women Who Mean Business Group Award. This is the 15th year for this annual awards program recognizing local women business leaders for their excellence in career and community. Aspire IRB and other honorees were selected from hundreds of nominations.

"We were very honored to be the recipient of this year's award. Being selected from such an impressive and successful group of nominees is very humbling. However, it is not about the accolades it's about serving our profession, humanity and community with excellence and passion," states Alycia Huston, CEO, Aspire IRB.

Aspire IRB since inception has continued to see records growth each year. Sales continue to be in the four digits and should reach \$1.5 million in 2008. Currently, Aspire IRB has over fifteen employees. "We created Aspire IRB because of our commitment to the research field and protecting the rights of clinical trial participants. Clinical research impacts everyone. The information derived from research will improve the quality of life for many people as well as save lives. We also knew that with our experience and enthusiasm for the field that we could create an IRB of the highest quality that would be very competitive in this growing field," explains Michele Baptista, CFO Aspire IRB. Currently there are over fifteen independent review boards nationwide.

About ASPIRE IRB www.aspire-irb.com Aspire IRB is a privately owned and certified Women's Business Enterprise headquartered in San Diego, CA. Aspire IRB is responsible for overseeing clinical research studies. Aspire reviews, approves and monitors any research involving human participants with the aim to protect their rights and welfare. The FDA and HHS regulations have empowered IRBs to approve, require modifications, or disapprove research. The board is made up of physicians, scientists, non-scientists, community members and members affiliated with Aspire IRB.

#####