



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **RAMS LINEBACKER CHRIS DRAFT JOINS THE PLAYER NETWORKING EVENT™ AT SUPER BOWL XLIII *NFL Sanctioned Event supports active and former players transition into second careers***

**January 29, 2009 – Tampa, FL.** The Chris Draft Family Foundation will travel to Tampa to participate in this year's Player Networking Event (PNE). The Player Networking Event™, an exclusively owned property of Troupe21 & Associates, was created to help current and former athletes transition from sports.

Each year, the PNE attracts active and former players who voluntarily attend to network with businesses and corporation in hopes of developing future opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship. In addition to highlighting player owned or affiliated businesses, for the first time in the nine-year history of the event, this year's PNE will highlight player charitable foundations, including the Chris Draft Family Foundation.

The 9th Annual Player Networking Event™ (PNE) at the Super Bowl is the only NFL Sanctioned Event designed to support active and former players transition into second careers. The Annual PNE will facilitate networking among players, team and league executives, corporate guests and exhibitors interested in offering any one of the following: (1) organizational branding during Super Bowl weekend; (2) internship or shadowing opportunities to players; (3) vendor supplier opportunities for players who own their own businesses; (4) marketing franchising or investment opportunities to players; (5) partnering with players for business or philanthropic purposes; or (6) marketing or selling a product or service to event attendees.

The PNE will take place at the University of South Florida's Marshall Student Center from 2:00pm to 6:00pm on Saturday, January 31; one day prior Super Bowl XLIII at Raymond James Stadium in Tampa.

#### **About the Player Networking Event™**

The 9th Annual Player Networking Event™ (PNE) at the Super Bowl will feature approximately 40 businesses; many of which are player-owned or involved businesses. This year's theme, "player-owned or affiliated" businesses, will showcase several active and former players in business. Confirmed athletes include active players David Girard (Jacksonville Jaguars), Larry Fitzgerald (Arizona Cardinals), T.J. Duckett (Seattle Seahawks), Chris Draft (St. Louis Rams), Allen Rossum (San Francisco 49ers), Jerious Norwood (Atlanta Falcons), Dhani Jones (Cincinnati Bengals) and John St. Clair (Chicago Bears). Former athletes include George Martin (NY Giants), Ian Allen (Philadelphia Eagles), Ron George (Kansas City Chiefs), Ike Reese (Atlanta Falcons), Marcellus Wiley (San Diego Chargers), Lamont Warren (New York Jets), Billy Davis (Dallas Cowboys), Nick Murphy (Baltimore Ravens), Ray Crockett (Denver Broncos), Greg Minor (Boston Celtics), Otis Birdsong (New Jersey Nets) and George Tinsley Sr. (New Jersey Nets).

#### **About the Chris Draft Family Foundation**

The mission of the Chris Draft Family Foundation is to strengthen communities by empowering families to live healthy lifestyles. The Foundation focuses on seven primary initiatives with overarching themes that stress the importance of education, healthy lifestyles, character development, personal responsibility, self-discipline and physical fitness. In the spirit of the Foundation's logo, inspired by a painting called "The Journey", the Chris Draft Family Foundation actively pursues partnerships with individuals, families and organizations. On "The Journey" to change the world for the better, merging our different paths and perspectives powers our mission and strengthens our commitment to improvement and ensures the success of our actions. For more information, please visit our website:

[www.chrisdraftfamilyfoundation.org](http://www.chrisdraftfamilyfoundation.org).

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