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Newt Gingrich Honors Local Business Owner as Virginia's Entrepreneur of the Year

PETERSBURG, VA - Former Speaker of the House and General Chairman of American Solutions, Newt Gingrich, recently honored John Thurman, CEO of Personal Care Preferred Group, as American Solutions' 2009 Entrepreneur of the Year from Virginia. Speaker Gingrich recognized Thurman at an American Solutions awards dinner on September 23, 2009 at the Capitol Hill Club in Washington, DC.

American Solutions is a tri-partisan citizen action network of over 1.5 million members. Its goal is to create the next generation of solutions that will ensure that the United States remains the safest, freest and most prosperous country in the world.

"While Washington politicians are busy pushing for job-killing health care and energy taxes, it's important that successful businessmen like Mr. Thurman are recognized for doing what it takes to create jobs. America is nearing ten percent unemployment, and creating new jobs is necessary for economic recovery. Unlike Washington, business leaders like Mr. Thurman realize that America does not work if Americans are not working. I look forward to working with Mr. Thurman on advancing real solutions to help create more jobs and get our economy moving again."

In the wake of the Federal Reserve's recent report that the U.S. is nearing a ten percent national unemployment rate, American Solutions launched a "Jobs Here – Jobs Now – Jobs First" agenda that contains four positive solutions to help small business create new jobs now. The four solutions are a two-year, 50 percent payroll tax cut, cutting the corporate tax rate to 12.5 percent to match Ireland, abolishing the capital gains tax to match China and ending the death tax. More information about the "Jobs Here – Jobs Now – Jobs First" agenda and about American Solutions can be found at www.AmericanSolutions.com.

Personal Care Preferred Group consists of three individual companies, Personal Touch Home Care, Moore Home Care and Southern Touch Health Care. The group has offices in Stony Creek, Colonial Heights, Waverly, Emporia, Petersburg, Lawrenceville, and Franklin.

Thurman started the home care company as an alternative to assisted living facilities and nursing homes for that segment of the population who needs help caring for themselves at home. Studies show that being cared for at home by trained professionals often increases patient and caregiver satisfaction and in some cases can be a more affordable solution. To date, home care like that provided by Personal Care Preferred Group is one of Medicaid's most popular services. It is also one of the fastest growing industry sectors.

"A growing population of seniors is expected to increase employment in home care nationally by 51 percent between 2006 and 2016," said Thurman. "Patients, especially elderly ones, increasingly choose care in their homes, rather than in a nursing home-type of facility, and we need to meet this growing demand by training and hiring qualified individuals to care for them."

To keep up with demand, Personal Care Preferred Group regularly hires trained professionals and offers classes throughout the year throughout its service area for those who are interested in becoming a home care aide.

For more information about Personal Care Preferred Group, call (800) 598-9854, or visit www.pcpgonline.com.