For Immediate Release September 22, 2009 Contact: Ryan Smith <u>rsmith@visitraleigh.com</u> (919) 645-2676

Dennis Edwards Receives 2009 Movers and Shakers Award

Raleigh, NC – Dennis Edwards, president and CEO of the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau, has received a 2009 Movers and Shakers Award from *Business Leader Magazine*. The annual award recognizes up and coming business leaders in the Triangle community. Edwards was honored at an awards ceremony held September 21 at the Royal Banquet & Conference Center.

"I am extremely honored to be named a 2009 Mover and Shaker by *Business Leader Magazine*," said Edwards. "To be associated with such a prestigious group of business leaders throughout the community is an honor in itself."

Edwards was nominated for his leadership of the 24-person Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau, a position which he has held since 2007. Throughout his leadership he has helped raise awareness of Wake County's \$1.5 billion tourism industry by positioning North Carolina's Capital City as a premier meeting and leisure destination.

The Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau, as the official destination marketing organization of Raleigh and Wake County, accelerates sustainable economic growth and development by increasing visitor and convention business. Through its website, <u>www.visitRaleigh.com</u> and other tools, the GRCVB assists local visitors in a variety of ways.