

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Deborah Mathis and Michael Lewis  
with Cowan, Guteski & Co. P.A. Present at the  
National Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) Conference**

Toms River, New Jersey, October 27, 2006 – Deborah R. Mathis, CPA, CHBC, Principal and Michael S. Lewis, MBA, FACMPE, Director of Healthcare Consulting presented a seminar entitled “Embezzlement: How Safe Is Your Practice?” at the national Medical Group Management Association (MGMA) conference on October 23 in Las Vegas. Approximately 200 physicians, group practice executives, and administrators attended this informative seminar. Mathis and Lewis provided a profile of the embezzler – who they are, what they know, what motivates them, and how they embezzle funds, as well as tools and recommendations on how physicians can protect their practice.

“Physicians are easy targets for the embezzler,” stated Deborah Mathis. “Employee embezzlement is one of the most common white collar crimes in our society today. At the same time, it is one of the most costly in terms of emotional drain and motivation.”

The conference offered in-depth information and ideas for practices striving for success in today’s competitive marketplace. “Medical group practices are a business like any other. Physicians are constantly looking for ways to improve their efficiency, patient care and bottom line,” said Michael Lewis. “The conference provided practical and useful ideas that practices can implement to help them to become more successful, proficient and functional, ultimately giving them the ability to serve their patients better.”

**About Deborah Mathis and Michael Lewis**

Deborah R. Mathis, CPA, CHBC, is a Principal with the Healthcare Services Group of Cowan, Guteski & Co., P.A. As a Certified Healthcare Business Consultant (CHBC), Ms. Mathis is uniquely qualified in both the financial and operational facets of medical practices. She is recognized in the healthcare industry as a consultant with a proven track record of helping physicians keep more of their hard-earned money. Her areas of expertise include revenue enhancement strategies, practice vital signs, compensation formulas, physician buy-sell agreements and practice valuations.

Michael S. Lewis, MBA, FACMPE, is the Director of Healthcare Consulting with Cowan, Guteski & Co., P.A. With more than 27 years of experience as a senior executive in the healthcare industry and a Fellow of the American College of Medical Practice Executives (FACMPE), Mr. Lewis brings a wealth of knowledge in medical practice management to the Firm. Physician Groups that he has managed have been recognized by MGMA as among the “Best Practices” in the country with respect to billing and collection indicators. Mr. Lewis is an established authority in practice management, medical billing and claims; accounts receivable management, practice acquisition, valuations, healthcare information systems, credentialing, electronic medical records, as well as physician relations and compliance.

#### About Cowan, Guteski & Company, P.A.

As a diversified certified public accounting firm, Cowan, Guteski & Co., P.A. is committed to being an active partner in their clients’ growth by delivering quality, value-added services. With a focus on the healthcare industry, they provide practice management, profitability enhancement, wealth management, valuation, forensic accounting and litigation support in addition to traditional accounting and tax services. Cowan, Guteski & Company is a member of CPAmerica International, one of the world’s largest networks of independent certified public accounting firms. This affiliation, along with the experience of their professionals, gives them the resources to be competitive with the “Big 4” and regional firms, and the ability to provide personalized service focused on their clients’ financial growth. Visit [www.cowanguteski.com](http://www.cowanguteski.com) for more information.

#### About MGMA

MGMA, founded in 1926, is the nation’s principal voice for medical group practice management. MGMA’s 20,000 members manage and lead more than 12,000 organizations in which more than 242,000 physicians practice. MGMA’s core purpose is to continually improve the performance of medical group practice professionals and the organizations they represent. MGMA operates two related organizations that provide professional development, certification and research. The American College of Medical Practice Executives (ACMPE) is the standard-setting and certification organization for group practice professionals. ACMPE members belong to a network of management professionals dedicated to becoming the best in medical practice management by combining experience, learning and professional certification. The MGMA Center for Research, a 501(c)(3) organization, conducts quantitative and qualitative research to advance the art and science of medical group management.

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