

TRANSCENDENT

Bank Chairman Partners with Filmmaker

Hunter Atkins and Curt Hahn join forces to produce Deadline

Nashville, December 13, 2010 – Film House CEO Curt Hahn and Bank of Nashville (a division of Synovus Financial Corporation) Chairman Hunter Atkins are teaming up to produce the theatrical feature film *Deadline* (www.DeadlineFilm.com), based on the novel *Grievances* by prize-winning author Mark Ethridge. Set in Nashville and Alabama, *Deadline* is a courtroom thriller inspired by a true story. Ethridge adapted the screenplay, working with Hahn, who will direct the film for Transcendent, the feature film subsidiary of Film House.

Atkins and Hahn are long time members of The Alternative Board, a CEO peer group. "I've always been impressed with Curt's work on *No Regrets* and *Two Weeks* with Sally Field," said Atkins. "Given the very wide media demand for good films, coupled with Curt's disciplined budget approach and a great script in *Deadline*, I just picked up the phone and said, 'Let's do this'."

"Hunter is a visionary leader full of keen business insights," said Hahn. "He always asks the best questions. He brings so much to our partnership."

Deadline tells the story of the murder of an African-American youth in rural Alabama that has gone unpunished, unsolved and uninvestigated for nearly twenty years. But that changes when Nashville reporter Matt Harper meets an idealistic young woman bent on discovering the truth. Harper undertakes the investigation despite the opposition of his publisher, violent threats from mysterious forces, a break-up with his fiancée and his father's cancer diagnosis. *Deadline* is a story of murder, family, race, and of redemption – for a small Southern town and for Matt Harper.

Said Hahn, "Pat Conroy summed it up perfectly when he said of the novel on which *Deadline* is based, '*Grievances* is as riveting as the best Grisham courtroom thriller. But *Grievances* is no mere thriller. It is a story of the heart.'"

Deadline will be shot entirely in Tennessee and released theatrically with support from Nashville-based The Panda Fund, which provides prints and advertising (P&A) funding for outstanding independent films. The Panda Fund's Chip Murray will work with Hahn and Atkins to design the film's marketing and release strategy. Molly Mayeux and Hahn are producing *Deadline*. Film House president Ron Routson is executive producing with Atkins and Hahn.

About Film House and Transcendent

Film House (www.filmhouse.com) is Tennessee's largest film production company producing hundreds of films and TV spots annually. *Transcendent* (www.transcendentllc.com), a wholly-owned subsidiary, produces independent feature films such as "*No Regrets*" starring Janine Turner and Kate Jackson, and "*Two Weeks*" starring two time Academy Award winner Sally Field, and partners with The Panda Fund (www.ThePandaFund.com) to release them theatrically. *Transcendent* produces the kind of inspiring, uplifting films that speak to the viewer's heart.

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