



**BUETHER JOE & CARPENTER, LLC**  
IP & COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

## **Buether Joe & Carpenter Announces Settlements for SFA Systems, LLC in Patent Case**

DALLAS (January 10, 2011) – Buether Joe & Carpenter, LLC – an intellectual property and commercial litigation boutique law firm – is announcing that settlements were reached on behalf of its client SFA Systems, LLC in a patent infringement litigation pending in the Eastern District of Texas.

In 2009 and 2010, SFA filed two lawsuits against more than a dozen companies alleging that these companies infringed U.S. Patent No. 6,067,525. The '525 patent is directed to integrated computerized sales force automation systems and methods.

The defendants who settled include the following: (1) 1-800-Flowers.com, Inc., (2) The Plow & Hearth, Inc. (currently known as 18F Virginia, Inc. and sued in this action as “The Plow & Hearth, Inc. including D/B/A Wind & Weather, Inc.”), (3) The Popcorn Factory, Inc., (4) The Winetasting Network (sued in this action as “Winetasting Network Inc.”), (5) the entity named in this action as “The Children’s Group, Inc.” (which was previously merged into 18F Virginia, Inc.), (6) the entity named in this action as “Wind & Weather, Inc.” (previously known as Wind & Weather and merged into The Plow & Hearth, Inc.), (7) the entity named in this action as “Problem Solvers, Inc.” (which was a brand operated by The Plow & Hearth, Inc. at the time of the commencement of this action), (8) Office Depot, Inc., (9) Northern Tool & Equipment Company, (10) Northern Tool and Equipment Catalog Co., (11) Omaha Steaks International, Inc., (12) Omahasteaks.com, Inc., and (13) Beckman Coulter, Inc.

Under the terms of the settlement, the amounts paid by the defendants to SFA are confidential.

These settlements are on top of settlements previously reached with Microsoft, Oracle, SAP, Sage, Salesforce.com, Infor Global, NetSuite, among others relating to the '525 patent.

SFA’s lead counsel in the case was Eric Buether of Buether Joe & Carpenter. SFA was also represented by co-counsel Andrew Spangler and David Pridham.

Buether Joe & Carpenter, LLC is an intellectual property and commercial litigation boutique law firm focusing on patent, copyright, trademark, trade secret, and unfair competition lawsuits, as well as antitrust, contract and other business disputes for both

plaintiffs and defendants. BJC offers clients the expertise of attorneys with decades of experience in handling complex litigation in an effective and efficient manner.

For more information on Buether Joe & Carpenter, LLC, please see [www.bjciplaw.com](http://www.bjciplaw.com) or contact Susie Klotz at 214.466.1277 or [susie.klotz@bjciplaw.com](mailto:susie.klotz@bjciplaw.com).