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Stephens Inc. Press Release

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William Butler Joins Stephens Inc. to Develop an Exploration & Production Research Practice in Fort Worth; Will Green Promoted to Analyst and Ben Wyatt Named Associate to Work in Stephens Exploration & Production Research Practice

(LITTLE ROCK, AR: August 19, 2010) – Nik Fiskén, Stephens Inc. EVP and Director of Research, announced today that William Butler has rejoined the firm as a Senior Vice President to develop an E&P Research practice at Stephens.

Mr. Butler most recently was Vice President and Assistant Treasurer of XTO Energy Inc. where he was responsible for evaluating strategic financial planning alternatives, executing financings, and supporting bank, rating agency and investor relations. During his seven-year tenure, XTO completed 21 capital raises including public equity, senior notes, and bank debt to fund the company's growth and create shareholder value. XTO recently merged with Exxon Mobil Corp.

“Mr. Butler brings an invaluable level of E&P industry experience to Stephens and is highly regarded by his peers within the industry,” stated Mr. Fiskén. “William understands the Stephens culture, he's an excellent fit for our firm and is the perfect leader for developing our E&P research enterprise from our new Fort Worth office.” Mr. Butler served as an Investment Banker with Stephens from 2000 to 2003.

Mr. Fiskén explained how Stephens has spent the last two years developing its Energy practice. “This completes our initial strategic plan for an Oilfield Services and E&P Energy Research practice, which began in 2009 with the establishment of Oilfield Services Research and an Energy Investment Banking team in Dallas and Houston. In the future, we may look to expand into other subsegments within the energy field.”

Stephens expanded its investment banking platform into the energy sector in May 2009 with the hiring of six investment bankers from Energy Capital Solutions, an energy-focused investment banking boutique with specialization in M&A and public and private capital. The Investment Banking Energy team is led by Managing Directors Keith Behrens and Brad Nelson in the Stephens Dallas office and Ron Montalbano in the Stephens Houston office. The group focuses on originating and executing transactions in E&P, oilfield services, natural resources, renewable fuels and alternative energy. The Energy team is now composed of eight seasoned bankers having completed 400 advisory and capital raising transactions with a combined \$18 billion in transaction value. Since joining Stephens last year, the Energy team has closed three public equity offerings, seven private placements of debt and equity, and four M&A transactions.

Mr. Fiskén also announced that Will Green has been promoted to Research Analyst and will join the E&P Research team with Butler in the new Fort Worth office. Mr. Green has spent the last three years as an Associate with the Building Materials team at Stephens Research. Ben Wyatt will also join the E&P Research team as a Research Associate.

Stephens Oilfield Services Equity Research group covers 20 public companies under the leadership of John Keller and Michael Marino of our Houston office. For our complete Energy coverage list, as well as the roughly 314 companies under coverage in total, please visit www.stephens.com/research.aspx.

Stephens Inc. is a full service investment banking firm headquartered in Little Rock, Arkansas. Since its inception in 1933, privately held Stephens Inc. has served a broad client base which includes corporations, state and local governments, financial institutions, institutional investors and individual investors throughout the United States and overseas. The firm is a member of the New York Stock Exchange and SIPC. Stephens' services include investment banking, money management, wealth management, securities underwriting, equity research and general securities brokerage and trading. Today, Stephens Inc. maintains more than 20 offices in the United States. For more information, visit www.stephens.com.