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For Immediate Release

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**National Expert On Women Business Owners Named Ambassador
To Women's Business Enterprise National Council**

Mary Cantando Named As Ambassador to National Council

Raleigh, NC – Mary Cantando, President of WomanBusinessOwner.com and Author of *NINE LIVES: Stories of Women Business Owners Landing On Their Feet*, has been selected as an Ambassador to the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC). As one of 32 key executives from across the country, chosen for this position, Cantando will assist in identifying, recruiting, and serving new corporate members and Women's Business Enterprises to build WBENC and its regional partners. She was selected for this honor based on her visible and active leadership in the WBENC Community at both a regional and national level. She has made a two-year commitment to actively represent WBENC and their regional partner organization, the Women's Business Enterprise Council – Southeast. Cantando joins key executives from organizations such as Exxon Mobil, Office Depot, Cisco Systems, Ernst and Young, SBC, Austin Tetra, Merrill Lynch, Shell Oil Company, IBM, and Microsoft in this position.

"I am honored to serve as an Ambassador on this council and to be involved in this prestigious organization," said Cantando. "WBENC empowers women in countless ways and I look forward to contributing to the growth of women-owned businesses."

About WBENC:

As the leading third-party certifier of and advocate for businesses owned and operated by women, the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) partners with corporate diversity executives and women's business organizations throughout the United States. WBENC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that seeks and accepts donations from corporations, foundations, and individuals that support its mission and programs. For more information, please visit the WBENC website at www.wbenc.org.

About Mary Cantando:

Mary Cantando is a nationally recognized expert on women business owners. She sits on the National Board of the Women Presidents' Organization, serves as the "Business Growth Advisor" for Women Entrepreneurs, Inc, sits on the National Women's Forum, and is certified by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council. She is the author of *Nine Lives: Stories of Women Business Owners Landing on their Feet*. As a member of the National Speakers' Association, Cantando speaks to women who want to grow their businesses, as well as corporations seeking to attract the lucrative, fast-growth market of women business owners.

About WomanBusinessOwner.com:

WomanBusinessowner.com is a national advisory firm that works with successful women business owners as well as corporations seeking to sell to this lucrative, fast-growth market. Mary Cantando, president of the firm, is the author of *NINE LIVES: Stories of Women Business Owners Landing on Their Feet*. For more information, call 919-841-0401 or visit the website at www.WomanBusinessOwner.com.

Media and Press Contacts:

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