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### **TIME AND ALLY FINANCIAL HONOR HIGH POINT DEALER**

Tim Ilderton Wins National Recognition for Community Service and  
Industry Accomplishments at NADA Convention

(Las Vegas, NV, February 4, 2012) –Tim Ilderton, general manager/dealer at Ilderton Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram in High Point, North Carolina, was named one of four regional finalists for the 2012 TIME Dealer of the Year award today.

Ilderton is one of a select group of dealers from across the country honored at the 95<sup>th</sup> annual National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) Convention & Exposition in Las Vegas on Saturday. The announcement of this year’s national Dealer of the Year and finalists was made by Kim Kelleher, worldwide publisher of TIME, and Tim Russi, executive vice president of North American Operations – Auto at Ally Financial, at the formal opening of the convention which was expected to draw more than 20,000 individuals involved in the automobile industry.

“Auto dealers have a tremendous impact on the vitality and strength of communities across the U.S.,” said Russi. “Ally is proud to support these extraordinary dealers who are truly making their communities better places to live and work.” As part of its support for the program, Ally will make charitable contributions to local community causes on behalf of all 50 nominated dealers across the United States. In addition, the 2012 national TIME Dealer of the Year winner will receive a \$10,000 contribution for a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of his or her choice. To celebrate the valuable contributions of dealers across the U.S., Ally has also launched a digital hub ([allybizhero.com](http://allybizhero.com)) featuring engaging content celebrating auto dealers and their philanthropic achievements.

The TIME Dealer of the Year award is one of the automobile industry’s most prestigious and highly coveted honors. Recipients are among the nation’s most successful auto dealers who must also demonstrate a long-standing commitment to community service. Ilderton, 61, was chosen to represent the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association in the national competition – one of only 50 auto dealers, from 17,000 nationwide, nominated for the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual award. The award is sponsored by TIME Magazine in association with Ally, and in cooperation with NADA. A panel of faculty members from the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan selects one finalist from each of the four NADA regions and one national Dealer of the Year.

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“In 1972, my father started an endeavor to equip vehicles to transport the physically challenged. It was mostly to offer mobility to customers in wheelchairs,” nominee Ilderton says. “Today, we sell vehicles that allow that same person in the wheelchair to drive. We specialize in upfitting vehicles to accommodate their disabilities to enable them to stay mobile and more independent.”

Ilderton, whose grandfather founded the Dodge dealership in High Point in 1926, began working in the family business in 1973 after graduating from East Carolina University with a B.A. in history. Though he did odd jobs at the dealership during high school, he started fulltime in the service department following college and then moved into the finance and insurance area before taking the helm as manager of the handicap van conversion department. “I developed a relationship with the North Carolina Department of Transportation to build and provide vehicles that would transport disabled individuals in the state of North Carolina,” explains Ilderton. “When I assumed the dealer principal chair in late 2004, I decided to expand our handicap conversion division and opened two additional stores, one in Charlotte and one in Charleston.”

He also expanded the fleet and leasing department, added a business link department to increase the dealership’s commercial presence and assumed the GEM (Global Electric Motor Vehicles) franchise. While he and his brother currently run the day-to-day operations, his 91-year-old father still comes to work every day. Four of his five children are also involved in the business.

Ilderton’s commitment to provide affordable and reliable transportation for the physically handicapped earned him the North Carolina Public Transportation Authority’s National Independent Living Award. “It was a great honor and was very special to me,” he says. “I have devoted much of my career to the handicap mobility division of our company. The ability to help a disabled veteran or a young person whose life is shattered by an accident – or any of our wonderful clients – is most rewarding.”

He is also a supporter of family initiatives. Ilderton’s dealership has been the title sponsor for the annual Beach Blast that raised money for the Children’s Home Society of North Carolina, a group that promotes the right of every child to have a permanent, safe and loving family. He has also received a For Love of Family Award from Family Service of the Piedmont, which is given to someone who dedicates time and talent to promote safe and healthy families. His other community service activities include being a member of the Furniture Land Rotary Club, Friends of Scouting, East Carolina University Educational Foundation and High Point Regional Health System Endowment Board, where he helped generate more than \$2 million for the endowment during his three-year tenure. Ilderton is the 2011 United Way PaceSetter Chairman and has been asked to lead the 2012 United Way drive. Ilderton adds, “Our dealership and family have served our community well for many years and these honors are a great reward.”

Nominated for the TIME Dealer of the Year Award by Robert Glaser, president of the North Carolina Automobile Dealers Association, Ilderton and his wife, Linda, have five children and three grandchildren.

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