

Harcourt, Inc. Hires Richard Blake as VP, Communications and Government Relations

ORLANDO, Fla., Oct. 3

Harcourt Inc., the Orlando, FL based K-12 education business, announced today that Richard Blake has joined the company as Vice President, Communications and Government Relations. Mr. Blake will assume responsibility for all external communications, media relations, and government affairs for the Harcourt Education group. He will report to Harcourt Education Chief Executive Officer Tony Lucki.

Blake, a former publishing industry attorney, headed the School Division of the Association of American Publishers from 1995 to 1999. While there, he led lobbying and public education efforts that focused national attention on our country's textbook shortage and led to desperately needed increases in appropriations for instructional material.

Most recently, he served as Vice President, Marketing for K-12 publisher Everyday Learning Corporation.

About Harcourt Inc.

Harcourt Inc. is a leading broadband education provider. Companies within Harcourt Inc. include Harcourt School Publishers (K-6 leader, with greatest strength in science, reading, math and social studies); Holt, Rinehart and Winston (major 6-12 grade publisher, leading in literature and language arts, growing prominence in Math and Social Studies); Steck-Vaughn (supplemental materials); Harcourt Trade (fiction and non-fiction), and Harcourt Educational Measurement (achievement, aptitude and guidance testing services for K-12, notably the Stanford Achievement Test). For more information about Harcourt Inc., visit the company Web site at <http://www.harcourt.com> .

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