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## NEWS RELEASE

5201 Paylor Lane  
Sarasota, FL 34240  
p. 941.351.0024  
f. 941.351.0034

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

#### **MEDIA CONTACT:**

Gabriele Vest  
(941) 351-0024

#### **1<sup>st</sup> Choice Industries Wins Small Business of the Year Award from Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce**

Sarasota, Florida – June 13, 2011 – 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Industries, a premier provider of construction, property management and business solutions, has been awarded the 2011 Frank G. Berlin, Sr., Small Business Award by the Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce. 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Industries CEO Gary Simone accepted the award at the annual Small Business Awards luncheon ceremony June 2, 2011, at the Hyatt Regency Sarasota.

“I started our family business with my father in New Jersey in 1983,” said Gary. “My family and I made the Sarasota-Bradenton area our home about seven years ago, and a few years later my partners Darrin Simone, George Rutigliano and I decided to relocate our main headquarters here. This award confirms that we made a great move. We are honored to be a part of this business community, where we employ 40 local residents and offer a diverse range of services.”

This award is the most recent good news for 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Industries, which announced in January 2011 that its total company sales had jumped 28 percent over the previous year, prompting the hiring of eight new employees in its Sarasota office and in the field. The company is looking forward to seeing sales numbers increase throughout 2011, as it continues to expand its local business and completes projects for major national clients such as Starbucks, Denny’s and Michaels Stores.

#### **About 1<sup>st</sup> Choice Industries**

Headquartered in Florida with satellite office locations in New Jersey and Texas, 1st Choice Industries is a premier provider of construction, facilities management and professional business solutions. Founded in 1983 in New Jersey, the company moved its corporate office headquarters to Sarasota, Florida, in 2004. 1st Choice Industries supports national clients across a broad range of industries, including retail, restaurant, hospitality, medical, banking and more. For more information, go to [www.1stchoicecorp.com](http://www.1stchoicecorp.com).

***Grapevine Communications is a full-service, award-winning advertising, marketing and public relations firm based in Sarasota, Florida, and serving clients nationwide. The firm was awarded the 2010 Frank G. Berlin, Sr., Small Business Award by the Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 941-351-0024 or email [pr@grapeinc.com](mailto:pr@grapeinc.com).***