FIDES CAPITAL PARTNERS

News Release

For Immediate Release

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FIDES CAPITAL PARTNERS, Reports Growth in Niche Real Estate Markets

Lake Forest, IL May 15, 2012 - FIDES CAPITAL PARTNERS, LLC, the Lake Forest based real estate investment bank, announced today that the level of strong market activity the firm experienced in 2011 continues to accelerate into 2012, evidence of growth in niche market sectors.

Greg Longoria, the firm's founder, commented on the growth, "Our focus on bringing capital to off-the-run asset types such as the student housing market paid-off in 2011. We were able to complete equity financing on over \$166 million of transactions. Some of the transactions involved Sha'ria compliant investors that were unique to this sector. Although the number of engagements within our restructuring practice declined, our capital advisory and structured finance business picked-up dramatically."

Mr. Longoria continued, "Clients gravitate to our firm because we have an ability to work on off-beat executions that typically cause the eyes of other advisors to glaze over. Each of our team members has over 20 years of diverse real estate experience as both an advisor and as a principal; that's hard to beat. We pride ourselves on tackling more complicated executions that involve allocating credit and structure to different types of investors. That is how we add value and that is why clients and investors work with us."

With respect to 2012, Longoria commented, "Our current engagements and pipeline reflects our diverse capabilities. We are working on a structured finance execution for a municipal finance strategy, a discounted note payoff for a large retail owner and are raising equity for another student housing investment company. We are also in discussions to raise capital for a specialty finance company, a buyer of non-performing notes and a land-banking firm involved in residential development. We continue to believe that 2012 will be about situational opportunities."

FIDES Capital Partners, LLC provides customized investment banking and financial advisory solutions to the real estate, investment management, specialty finance and infrastructure industries. Additional information may be found at <u>http://www.FidesCapitalPartners.com</u>.