

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CLEVELAND MEDIA CONTACT:**

Renie Walters  
Ancora Advisors LLC  
216-593-5015 direct  
renie@ancora.ws

### **ANCORA SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FUND TAKES TOP SPOT FOR 2009**

**(Cleveland, OH) – July 1, 2009:** Through the first six months of 2009, the Ancora Special Opportunity Fund has been ranked the top performing mutual fund in the country. According to data provided by Morningstar, out of over 8000 unleveraged, diversified stock funds investing in U.S. based companies, the Ancora Special Opportunity Fund advanced 43.7% during the six month period versus the S&P 500 index which achieved less than a 2% return.

The Special Opportunity Fund is managed by Wall Street veteran, Richard A Barone, who is also the Chairman of the Ancora Group of Companies based in Cleveland, Ohio. Mr. Barone began his investment career in the late 1960's, and in 1973 founded the Maxus Investment Group. Maxus established its first of several mutual funds in 1985, and ultimately sold its business to Fifth Third Bank in 2001. Ancora (meaning "once again" in Italian) was established that same year and has since grown to nearly \$2 billion in assets under management.

Mr. Barone sits on the Boards of a number of public companies and community organizations including Mace Security International and the Cleveland State University Foundation, which he chairs. In addition, his opinions and achievements have received national media attention on numerous occasions over his 40 year career in the investment business.

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