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## **DETROIT RENAISSANCE NAMES KIRSTEN USSERY DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS**

**DETROIT, Mich., July 14, 2008** – Detroit Renaissance, Inc. has named Kirsten Ussery director of communications. In her new position, Ussery will manage media relations, communications, outreach, and marketing efforts for Detroit Renaissance.

Ussery joins Detroit Renaissance from John Bailey & Associates (JB&A), a Troy-based public relations firm, where she was most recently account executive for several automotive clients including Henkel North America and DuPont. Prior to JB&A, Ussery was public relations specialist at Yazaki North America, Inc., a global Tier 1 automotive supplier, where she managed media relations and special corporate projects.

“Kirsten Ussery provides significant experience in media relations and project management that will have an immediate impact as we implement strategies and take actions to transform our region’s economy,” said Doug Rothwell, president of Detroit Renaissance. “She is an excellent addition to our staff and we are excited to have her leadership and creativity on our team.”

Ussery received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Studies/Public Relations from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNC Charlotte). She is also a graduate of Wayne State University with a Masters in Education.

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**About Detroit Renaissance:**

Detroit Renaissance provides leadership to accelerate the economic transformation of Detroit and Southeast Michigan. Renaissance accomplishes this work through serving as a catalyst to develop growth strategies, advocating for those strategies and championing specific initiatives that accelerate growth. A 501(c)(3) organization that was formed in 1970, Detroit Renaissance includes the chief executive officers of the region's most significant employers and universities. For more information, visit [www.detroitrenaissance.com](http://www.detroitrenaissance.com).

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