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CONTACT:

Dr. Bo Johnson, MD, FACS
Rocky Mountain Vein Clinic
(877) 251-8346
info@rockymountainveinclinic.com
www.rockymountainveinclinic.com

Dr. Bo Johnson Awarded Board Certification in Phlebology

Billings, Montana September 18, 2008 - This past July, Dr. James L. “Bo” Johnson, MD, FACS passed the American College of Phlebology’s requirements for Board Certification. This was the first time the Board has offered certification. Dr. Johnson is now the only Board Certified Phlebologist in Wyoming, and one of only two in Montana. Dr. Johnson is the Medical Director of the Rocky Mountain Vein Clinic, located in both Cody, WY and Billings, MT.

The American College of Phlebology, this past July, awarded Dr. James L. “Bo” Johnson of Rocky Mountain Vein Clinic Board Certification in phlebology, which is the study of veins and vein disease. Since the certification was made available just this year, 248 doctors nationwide became the first-ever Board Certified Phlebologists.

“Board Certification in Phlebology shows that a doctor is fully involved in vein care and that he or she is committed to the highest standard in vein care,” says Dr. Johnson. To simply sit for the exam, doctors must first pass strenuous prerequisites documenting their professionalism along one of the following paths: fellowship, residency, experience, or scholarship. Having performed over 700 vein cases in the last four years, Johnson chose to qualify via the experience path.

To establish themselves through experience, applicants must first provide three letters of recommendation from physicians certified by the American Board of Phlebology, the American Board of Medical Specialties, or the Bureau of Osteopathic Specialists. Next, they must have performed at least 100 vein cases within the two years prior to the test. The cases must show proficiency in managing a variety of vein problems, such as deep vein disease, pelvic venous deficiency, and vascular malformation. Candidate hopefuls must also possess training or experience with ultrasound. A minimum of 45 credit hours of phlebology-specific education, teaching, or journal authoring is required to sit for the exam as well. When the American Board of Phlebology deems experience-path applicants eligible through all of these factors, they are finally considered candidates for the exam.

The exam itself takes four hours to complete. In 200 questions, the test covers topics from coagulation to lasers to radiology. Most of the exam focuses on treatments and

therapies, but candidates also answer questions on imaging and ultrasound modalities, venous diseases and syndromes, and diagnostic tools. Dr. Johnson, who is already a Board Certified General Surgeon, took an extra course in Dallas and studied extensively for four months to pass the test.

Board Certification with the American College of Phlebology is valid for ten years, contingent upon maintaining professional standing and performance, a commitment to continued education, and expertise overall.

Dr. Johnson's Rocky Mountain Vein Clinic specializes in treating varicose veins and vein diseases through Endovenous Laser Therapy (EVLT) and RF-Radiofrequency (VNUS) Closure®.

About Rocky Mountain Vein Clinic:

Dr. Bo Johnson is the Medical Director of Rocky Mountain Vein Clinic, based in Cody, WY and Billings, MT. The Rocky Mountain Vein Clinic specializes in treating varicose veins and vein diseases using Endovenous Laser Therapy (EVLT) and RF-Radiofrequency (VNUS) Closure®.