



## **For Immediate Release**

Contact: Laurie Rich  
Director of Communications  
Perennial Strategy Group  
202.638.5090  
[lrich@perennialsg.com](mailto:lrich@perennialsg.com)

### **NBA Referee Bennett Salvatore Officiates Landmark Game**

**Washington, D.C., March 18, 2008** – At the close of the Bulls-Hornets matchup at the New Orleans Arena last night, veteran NBA referee Bennett Salvatore had a victory of his own. He had just completed his 1,500<sup>th</sup> NBA game.

“Officiating 1,500 games is an extraordinary achievement,” said Lamell McMorris, spokesman for the National Basketball Referees Association. “This figure is a testament to Bennett’s great skill and commitment. We are very happy for him.”

Salvatore, a 26-year NBA referee, has had one of the longest careers in the league – outpaced only by Dick Bavetta in his 33<sup>rd</sup> season, Joey Crawford in his 31<sup>st</sup>, and Jack Nies in his 30<sup>th</sup>.

Wearing jersey number 15, Salvatore has worked 178 playoff games, 21 NBA Finals games, and two NBA All-Star Games, in 1993 and 2002. He also served as a NBRA board member from 1989 – 1992.

Salvatore is a native of Stamford, Connecticut, and is widely known for the restaurant he owns there called Bennett’s Steak and Fish.

### **About the NBRA**

The National Basketball Referees Association represents the referees of the National Basketball Association.

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