



For Immediate Release

June 23, 2004

**House Buyers of America CEO Nick Y. Ron
Wins Ernst & Young 2004 Entrepreneur Of The Year[®] Award**

**30-Year-Old CEO
Honored for House Buyers of America's 656% Growth Rate**

McLean, Virginia – Nick Y. Ron, 30-year-old CEO of House Buyers of America, was recently named a winner of the 2004 *Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards* in Greater Washington. Local judges selected Ron from among four finalists in the *Realizing Business Potential* category sponsored by Microsoft. The judges were impressed with financial data, which has propelled Ron's residential real estate investment and relocation services company to an annual growth rate of 656% and revenues to more than \$54 million since the company was founded in April of 2001.

Nick Ron, CEO of House Buyers of America said, "It is a great honor to have been a finalist among the fine group of entrepreneurs considered for this award." He added, "ultimately, this award is for House Buyers of America customers who are increasingly embracing our House Buyers hassle-free way of selling and buying homes."

Ron was presented with a technology grant in the amount of \$10,000 from Microsoft, and an HP laptop loaded with \$8,000 in Microsoft business productivity and server software.

Mid-Atlantic Manager of Microsoft's Small and Mid-Market Solutions and Partner Team, Jamie Tozzi, presented Ron with his trophy. "As technology advocates, Microsoft is passionate about partnering with entrepreneurs to deliver the affordable tools that help them realize their full potential," said Tozzi. "Microsoft applauds Nick Ron and is proud to present him with the award."

House Buyers of America is a consumer focused, investment and relocation services company. In a nutshell, House Buyers buys homes AS IS, then renovates and sells them. House Buyers is reinventing the residential real estate industry by offering consumers a new way to buy and sell homes. By using House Buyers, consumers no longer have to pay real estate commissions, deal with salespeople or fix up their properties. House Buyers offers a hassle-free, one stop service where consumers can receive an offer on their homes in just one week.

Mike Smith, Senior Vice President of White & Baldacci PR (W&B PR) in Herndon, Virginia nominated Ron for the *Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year* award. “House Buyers of America is one of W&B PR’s most successful clients because it is filling a significant need for consumers,” said Smith. “W&B PR is proud to call House Buyers of America a client because Nick Ron deserves this award for his leadership and vision in redefining the way people sell and buy their homes,” said Smith.

House Buyers of America (www.HouseBuyersOfAmerica.com) is headquartered in Chantilly, Virginia. It originally began by offering service in the Northern Virginia area, but since then has extended more fully into the surrounding DC/MD Metro area as well. In April 2004, the company launched its first satellite office in the Virginia Beach Hampton Roads area. Expansion plans for new market launches are currently under development.

Winners in several national categories, as well as the overall national Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year, will be announced at the annual awards gala in Palm Springs, California, in November of 2004.

About Ernst & Young

The Entrepreneur Of The Year awards program was created and is produced by professional services firm Ernst & Young LLP. As the first award of its kind, Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs who are building and leading dynamic and growing businesses. The program honors entrepreneurs through regional, national and global award programs in over 100 cities and 35 countries.

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About Microsoft

Founded in 1975, Microsoft (Nasdaq “MSFT”) is the worldwide leader in software, services and Internet technologies for personal and business computing. The company offers a wide range of products and services designed to empower people through great software — any time, any place and on any device. Microsoft works to help ensure that small-business owners have the tools, technology and support they need to reach their business potential in today’s competitive marketplace. More information is available on the Web at <http://www.microsoft.com/smallbusiness>.

For more information on House Buyers of America, go to www.HouseBuyersOfAmerica.com or call 1-855-65-WE-BUY (855-659-3289).