

**For Immediate Release**

**MARRERO, PATTERSON AND YON  
JOIN UPSTATE FOREVER'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

June 7, 2001

Upstate Forever is pleased to announce that Keith Marrero of Greenville, Leon Patterson of Laurens, and Kris Yon of Anderson have joined its Board of Directors.

Marrero, President of AMI Architects, LLC in Greenville, is actively involved in promoting green design and development principles in the Upstate. His projects include the Training and Development Center for BMW, the Reedy River Baptist Church, and the renovation of the Berea Middle School. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Greenville First Bank, the St. Francis Hospital Foundation Board, and the South Carolina Children's Theatre. Marrero received his bachelor's degree in architecture from the University of Notre Dame.

Patterson is the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of The Palmetto Bank in Laurens. He has served on the Board of Directors of the American Banking Association and as President of the South Carolina Banking Association. Patterson has been actively involved in his community, serving as President of the Greater Laurens Chamber of Commerce, Chairman of the Upper Savannah Council of Governments, and a founding member of the Leadership Laurens Board of Directors. He received his bachelor's degree from Wofford College and his MBA degree from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business.

Yon is an Anderson native who has been active in her community for many years. She practiced as a registered nurse for five years before teaching science at the elementary and middle school levels for eleven years. Yon has been involved with Advance Anderson, a committee of the Anderson Chamber of Commerce that has studied infrastructure and quality of life issues in the Anderson

region. She has also served on several committees established by the Anderson County Planning Department to address land management and conservation issues. Yon has an associate's degree in nursing from Clemson University.

Dave Hargett, Chairman of Upstate Forever's Board, praised the three new members: "With these three new members, we have extended our geographic representation and added unique skills and talents that will be of great benefit to Upstate Forever. We are honored to have them on our Board."

For more information, contact Dave Hargett at 864-467-0811 (ext. 13).