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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***NCSA Introduces Pro Lacrosse Player Paul Rabil as National Spokesman***

**July 6, 2009—Bethesda, MD**—The National Cued Speech Association is pleased to introduce professional lacrosse player Paul Rabil as its first National Spokesman. Rabil is one of the premier professional lacrosse players in the world and is hard of hearing. Thus, he understands all too well the challenges associated with hearing loss and communication.

The NCSA supports effective communication, language development and literacy through the use of Cued Speech. Cued Speech is a mode of communication based on the phonemes and properties of traditionally spoken languages. Cueing allows individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing or who have other language/communication disorders to visually access the basic, fundamental properties of spoken languages.

Paul Rabil regards his partnership with the NCSA as an honor. “Being partially deaf since birth, this group has a special first-hand impact on my life as well. I’m honored to be a part of it. I am continually trying to channel the same energy and passion that I use on the field, off the field. Giving back is one of the most prized possessions one can have. To give is to grow.”

Says NCSA President Josh Libby, “I have been following Paul on and off the field since January, and I find him to be an individual of integrity and his moral character is second to none. Paul has chosen the NCSA as one of his two charities because our mission has personal meaning to him. Not only is Paul a great professional athlete, he devotes countless hours as an ambassador of the sport of lacrosse and has emerged as one of the most sought after players promoting the game.”

Rabil hails from Gaithersburg, Maryland, and is a graduate of Johns Hopkins University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. Rabil was selected by the Boston Cannons with the first overall pick in the 2008 Major League Lacrosse (MLL) Collegiate Draft.

The NCSA will work with Paul Rabil to expand public awareness of Cued Speech and develop fundraising opportunities for the organization’s Deaf Children’s Literacy Project. In the coming months, Rabil and NCSA will release public service announcements and other advertisements to inform his fans, as well as the general public, about Cued Speech and its importance.

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*The National Cued Speech Association champions effective communication, language development and literacy through the use of Cued Speech. The NCSA launched the Deaf Children’s Literacy Project in 1997. For more information, contact [info@cuedspeech.org](mailto:info@cuedspeech.org) or visit [www.cuedspeech.org](http://www.cuedspeech.org).*