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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Founder of National Consumer Campaign Heads To Boulder

BOULDER, COLO – JULY 5, 2005 - Remar Sutton, independent consumer spokesperson for Boulder's U of C Federal Credit Union, returns to Boulder the week of July 11th, and will address Binding Mandatory Arbitration (BMA) clauses and how they are damaging many consumers' lives. According to Sutton, when you sign a contract that contains a BMA clause, you give away your constitutional right to use the American court system to solve a disagreement.

When a corporation includes a BMA requirement in its contracts, it means your dispute must be decided by a private legal system. Because BMA clauses are "binding," you must abide by the decision and have no right to appeal. Under this private, for-profit system, judges, called arbitrators, do not have to follow the law or even justify their decisions. Although arbitration is intended to be an economic alternative, it normally costs more than using the courts.

Recently, Sutton helped more than two dozen public interest groups launch a national effort to end corporate use of BMAs. The National Consumer Law Center, Consumer's Union, the American Association for People with Disabilities, Consumer Task Force for Automotive Issues, U.S. Public Interest are among the many organizations mounting this campaign that includes educational tools empowering consumers to take action. (Public Citizens, Press Release, February, 2005). More information is available at Sutton's Coalition web site www.stopbma.org.

Sutton will address how consumers can recognize and protect themselves from BMA clauses during a public talk titled, "What's Lurking Under the Surface of Your Contracts", Tuesday July 12, 2005, 6:30 – 8:00 pm at U of C Federal Credit Union, 2300 55th Street, Boulder. Details are available at uofcfcu.com or call 303-443-4672 ext, 1143.

U of C Federal Credit Union is a member-owned, not-for-profit banking retailer serving Boulder County for over 50 years. The Credit Union provides objective consumer advice and personal banking products and services through a network of branches, ATMs, the Internet and service centers throughout the United States. U of C Federal Credit Union serves over 76,000 members and has over \$660 million in assets. Voted “Best Financial Institution” six years in a row, U of C Federal Credit Union is committed to the financial success of its members and the entire community. To learn more about U of C Federal Credit Union, visit the web site at uofcfcu.com

Remar Sutton is an author, a columnist for the Washington Post and other publications, and a nationally recognized consumer expert. He co-founded the national Consumer Task Force for Automotive Issues and the Privacy Rights Now Coalition. Sutton’s consumer views have been featured in the national media including CNN, Good Morning American, News Week, NPR’s All Things Considered and the Wall Street Journal.