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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JEFF HAWKINS, EXPERT ON SECURITY, DISCUSSES CHURCH SHOOTING: Answers in Genesis Official Wrote Book for Faith-Based Groups

WHAT: A man opened fire with a shotgun at a Unitarian church in Knoxville, Tenn., during a children's play Sunday morning, killing two adults and wounding seven others before being overpowered by congregants.

This continued a disturbing trend in recent years. There have been church shootings in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1999 (seven killed), Baton Rouge, La., in 2006 (five killed) and Brookfield, Wisc., in 2005 (seven killed), as well as the 2007 shootings in a Colorado ministry and church that claimed five lives.

Faith-based organizations are generally “behind the curve” compared to the secular business world in the area of security and emergency planning, experts say.

WHO: **Jeff Hawkins**, chief security officer for Answers in Genesis and the Creation Museum and the author of “An Introduction to Security & Emergency Planning for Faith-Based Organizations.” He has more than 27 years of experience working for profit, not-for-profit, and government organizations. He is a former Chicago police officer and was head of security for the famous Field Museum in Chicago before coming to AIG. Jeff routinely speaks to churches and ministries on the topic of security and can talk about what these groups can do to be prepared for similar situations.

WHEN: By appointment

DETAILS: Answers in Genesis is a biblical apologetics ministry which conducts more than 300 teaching meetings each year, hosts an award-winning website and produces the “Answers” radio program heard on more than 900 stations throughout the United States. Its Creation Museum opened to international acclaim little more than a year ago.

NOTE: For more information or to schedule an interview with Jeff Hawkins,

contact Melany Ethridge of A. Larry Ross Communications at 972.267.1111 or melany@alarryross.com.