



Team Press Release: 11/13/08

## Stevenson Motorsports To Race A Brand New Chevrolet Camaro In The Grand-Am KONI Challenge Series



Photo Courtesy Of GM

In the 2008 Grand-Am Rolex Sports car series, the Stevenson Motorsports team made an indelible mark in the record books when they finished the racing year just a handful of points out of first place in the GT class. In 2009, this independent team from Jacksonville, North Carolina will expand into the KONI Challenge Series, running a brand new Chevrolet Camaro built by Bill Riley's Riley Technologies ([www.rileytech.com](http://www.rileytech.com)) located in Mooresville, North Carolina.

Mike Johnson is the team manager for Stevenson Motorsports. "We are genuinely excited about being among the first to race the all new Chevrolet Camaro in KONI Challenge." Johnson said, "Bill Riley is one of the top builders of race cars anywhere and we know that when he delivers chassis number 001 to our team we will already have a head start on the competition."

Bill Riley expressed his pleasure at having Stevenson be the first team to order the new Camaro from his shop when he said, "I am looking forward to working with the Stevenson Team on developing the car this year. I was very impressed with what they accomplished with the Pontiac in the Rolex GT Series and I have every expectation we will work together very well in getting this new car up to speed. The lines of the new Camaro and the engineering that has gone into it all suggest it has the makings of an excellent race car and the Stevenson Team is an outstanding choice for developing the new Chevrolet Camaro. I am very pleased we will be working together to bring this great name back to professional sports car racing."

Team owner John Stevenson runs a network of auto dealerships in North Carolina, under the Stevenson Automotive Group banner. One of these is a Chevrolet store located in Swansboro. He is expecting his new Camaro race car will come out of Bill Riley's shop right around the same



time Chevrolet sends its first batch of new street Camaros to his store. The anticipated date is in March of 2009, just after the start of the 2009 KONI Challenge Series season.

“We are working on the issues of sponsorship and drivers right now for the Camaro program.” Team owner John Stevenson said, “We intend to run the Camaro with a crew of seasoned pros, including having Mike Johnson handle the strategy. I can also tell you that we are working with veteran racer and team manager Jeff Bucknum to put together all the pieces we will need to run at the front in the KONI Series. With Bill Riley building our new Camaro we can only assume the best is yet to come for us in the KONI Challenge.”

Fans of road racing will remember the years when the Camaro was such a potent force in the old SCCA Trans-Am series. Names like Donohue, Bucknum, Hall, Elford and Fellows can be found in the history books as race winners driving Chevrolet's 'other sportscar'. The rebirth of the Camaro street car - with styling very reminiscent of the 1969 model - provides an exceptional opportunity for the Stevenson team to add even more lines to the pages of the Camaros glorious history.

While it is still too early to reveal all the plans in the works for the new KONI Challenge effort, what John Stevenson is working on behind the scenes right now could result in the reuniting of some of the greatest names in racing ever associated with the Chevrolet Camaro. Fans are advised to stay tuned to the Stevenson Motorsports website ([www.stevensonmotorsports.com](http://www.stevensonmotorsports.com)) for more information about what just might be the biggest news to hit North American road racing since a few highly skilled men hailing from out of the northeast “blue” the doors off of a few FORD products nearly 40 years ago.

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### **About The Stevenson Automotive Group**

Stevenson Automotive Group has been a leading automotive influence in Southeastern North Carolina since 1983. We enjoy a reputation for conducting business in an honest and professional manner with all of our customers. They are always our number one priority.

The owner, John Stevenson, has a vested interest in obtaining maximum customer satisfaction and that commitment to excellence is shared with over 350 well-trained parts, service and sales staff.

***"If it has our name on it, you have our word on it!"***

The Stevenson Automotive Group includes the following store locations in North Carolina:

Stevenson Honda – Wilmington  
Stevenson Acura - Wilmington  
Stevenson Chevrolet - Swansboro  
Stevenson Chrysler – Jeep – Mazda - Jacksonville  
Stevenson Hyundai - Suzuki of Jacksonville  
Stevenson Kia - Jacksonville  
Stevenson Mazda - Kia - Wilmington  
Stevenson Toyota - Scion – Jacksonville  
Stevenson Pre Owned Center - Jacksonville

Website: [www.StevensonAuto.com](http://www.StevensonAuto.com)