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Hospitality Professionals Receive Awards Recognizing Outstanding Achievements

CHICAGO – At its 21st Annual Hospitality Awards luncheon on May 24th at McCormick Place (In Conjunction with the Annual National Restaurant Association Restaurant-Hotel Show), the Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association (IHLA), honored five outstanding hospitality professionals. The event was hosted by Roe Conn, Host of The Roe Conn Show on Chicago’s WGN Radio and Contributor to ABC7’s Windy City Live.

Jim Abrahamson, CEO of the Interstate Hotels & Resorts, was awarded the J. Patrick Leahy Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Ambassador of Hospitality Award had four deserving recipients this year:

- Steve Horve, President, Horve Hospitality Management, Inc.
- Misty Johanson, Director, School of Hospitality Leadership - Driehaus College of Business, DePaul University
- Dean Lane, General Manager, Palmer House - A Hilton Hotel
- Everett Rand, President & Chief Beverage Officer, Midway Wholesalers, Inc.

“IHLA was proud to give out our most prestigious awards to five deserving recipients who have made significant contributions to the hospitality industry in Illinois. We were very pleased to induct this 2016 class of influential leaders into the legacy of honorees who have greatly impacted our industry,” said Marc Gordon, IHLA President & CEO.

The Illinois Hotel & Lodging Association (IHLA) is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(6) trade association that represents the lodging industry in Illinois. IHLA members consist of over 500 hotels and their employees throughout the state as well as related industry partners and suppliers. IHLA provides significant benefits to its members by protecting against government intrusion, educating through quality, relevant seminars and webinars, and providing promotional exposure and access to current industry news, resources, and contacts through IHLA’s website, marketing initiatives, member programs, and networking events.

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