



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Sacramento Hotel Association Honors Hotel Employees and Industry Supplier

Sacramento, CA—The Sacramento Hotel Association (SHA) honored outstanding hotel employees and an industry supplier at its 18th annual Hospitality Gala, Friday, April 9, at the Doubletree Hotel Sacramento. According to SHA President Howard Harris, general manager at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West, the annual event allows members of Sacramento’s hospitality industry to recognize exceptional employees and an affiliated supplier who have demonstrated superior performance and helped to improve the quality of visits for Sacramento’s business travelers, convention delegates and tourists.

Awards were presented to the following outstanding hotel employees as “2009 Hospitality Employees of the Year.”

The Citizen Hotel

Vernon Fowler, Banquet Cook

Courtyard by Marriott Cal Expo

Graciela Ochoa, Executive Housekeeper

Doubletree Hotel Sacramento

Ron Nettingham, Guest Services Supervisor

Embassy Suites Sacramento

Jhonnie Reyes, Breakfast Cook

Hilton Sacramento Arden West

Patricio Mangornong, Laundry Worker

Holiday Inn Capitol Plaza

Jesus Guerrero, Lead Cook

Hyatt Regency Sacramento

Candice Yu, Housekeeping Turndown Attendant

Radisson Hotel Sacramento

Summer Alvarado, Front Desk Supervisor

Sacramento Marriott Rancho Cordova

Patrick Egan, At Your Service Agent

Sheraton Grand Hotel

Ernesto Gonzales, Busser at Morgan’s Central Valley Restaurant

The Sacramento Hotel Association presented its **2009 Supplier of the Year award** to the **Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)**.

SMUD supports the Sacramento Hotel Association's green lodging initiative by promoting energy audits for participating hotels and offering SMUD's Greenergy Program as an option for supporting renewable power for a cleaner, healthier environment. SMUD representatives have worked with several hoteliers to provide energy audits, billing inquiries, energy efficiency rebates, greenergy, voluntary emergency curtailment options, and energy-tracking services. Over the past few years, SMUD has provided these hotels with incentives totaling more than \$200K for various upgrades such as energy efficient lighting, HVAC, refrigeration and energy efficient motors, room controls and kitchen modifications. Most recently, SMUD worked with numerous hotels to provide Customer Advanced Technology grants totaling \$102K to assess the performance and savings potential for LED replacement lamps in hospitality applications.

The award was presented to three SMUD representatives:

Sandy Butts, key account manager, and a current member of the SHA Board of Directors;

Michelle Seeberger, account representative III; and

Clifton Lewis, manager, customer programs and services.

The Sacramento Hotel Association also presented **two \$1,000 scholarships** at the Hospitality Gala. Scholarship recipients included:

Alison Janigian – University of San Francisco

Sarai Rodriguez – Sacramento City College and UC School TBA

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The mission of the Sacramento Hotel Association is to provide the environment within which those engaged in the lodging industry in the Sacramento region may obtain educational, informational, and networking experiences, to actively advocate the association's position on issues, and to foster local government and community recognition of the industry as an important segment of the regional economy.