

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 15, 2004

DON JOHNSON WINS AH&LA INDUSTRY VOLUNTEER AWARD
Recognition for Efforts on Behalf of California Hotel & Lodging Association

SACRAMENTO – Don Johnson, CHA, President/CEO of Vagabond Franchise System, Inc. was awarded a Most Valuable Volunteer Award by the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AH&LA) during the Las Vegas International Hotel & Restaurant Show, April 13-15, at the Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino. The award was given to Johnson for his outstanding and tireless work on behalf of the California Hotel & Lodging Association (CH&LA).

As the AH&LA Director representing CH&LA, and a member of CH&LA's Board of Directors, Johnson has also previously served as CH&LA's chairperson. Johnson has been a long time contributor to CH&LA as a member of CH&LA's Board of Directors for over ten years and recently Johnson was instrumental in the formation, stewardship and oversight of CH&LA's highly successful California Lodging Industry Legislative Awareness Summit.

"Don Johnson epitomizes the leadership and spirit of hospitality those in our industry strive to achieve. Don's efforts on behalf of the lodging association toward the betterment of the entire industry are laudable," said James O.

Abrams, President & CEO of CH&LA. “This honor is our opportunity to both recognize and thank our greatest asset, our volunteers.”

Launched in 1998, this annual award is presented to one person in each state who has greatly contributed to their hospitality programs and initiatives. Winners receive a commemorative silver medallion.

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The California Hotel & Lodging Association (CH&LA) is the largest state lodging industry trade association in the country. Its 1,600 member properties, which comprise close to 200,000 guest rooms, consist of hotels, motels, bed and breakfast inns, guest ranches, resorts, spas, condominium rentals, timeshares, and vacation home rentals located throughout California. CH&LA’s mission is to be the indispensable resource for communicating and protecting the rights and interests of the California lodging industry, for providing educational training and value programs for all segments of the industry, and for supporting strategic alliances to promote the value of California tourism and travel.

Sacramento-based CH&LA has been representing California’s lodging industry for more than a century. CH&LA is on the web at www.chlaonline.com.