



Hotel Equities

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (photo attached)

Gwinnett CVB Honors Malinda Foster with Salesperson of the Year Award

Atlanta, GA (January 7, 2011) – The Gwinnett Convention & Visitors Bureau (GCVB) named **Malinda Foster** a recipient of the Salesperson of the Year Award. Ms. Foster is the Director of Sales for the Courtyard by Marriott Mall of Georgia, managed by DeKalb-based Hotel Equities.

Presented recently at the Gwinnett CVB's Annual Tourism Awards luncheon, the award recognizes the sales professional who consistently exceeds the sales and marketing goals for her hotel, is creative and professional and who sets the standard for the hotel sales staff.

“Malinda without question exemplifies all aspects of the credentials for this award,” said **Ross Powell**, Director of Sales for the GCVB. “She is the consummate professional, always client-focused, always driven for service and sales excellence, always keeping the customer satisfied while being anxious to close the business and get repeat business and referrals at the same time. Gwinnett County is extremely lucky to have her as part of our overall hospitality sales team focusing on total County economic development.”

Ms. Foster joined Hotel Equities four years ago and has served as Director of Sales for the SpringHill Suites and the Hampton Inn, both at the Mall of Georgia, before moving to the Courtyard-Mall of Georgia. She also serves as a Sales Team Leader for Hotel Equities with leadership responsibility for other hotels in the firm's portfolio.

Before coming to Hotel Equities, Ms. Foster served as Sales Manager for the Residence Inn by Marriott-Buckhead/Lenox Park where she was responsible for increasing the hotel's overall revenue. She previously worked as Event Manager for Perimeter Church in Duluth, Georgia where she managed and booked over 38,000 in-church events per year.

Active in the community, Ms. Foster volunteers for the March of Dimes, Children's Miracle Network, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta and Make a Wish Foundation. She also does outreach with the homeless and less fortunate in the area.

Ms. Foster attended Jacksonville State University where she studied Communications. A resident of Dacula in Gwinnett County, she and her husband Danny are the parents of a son.

Hotel Equities (HE) is an Atlanta-based full-scale hotel management, development and consulting firm. Frederick W. Cerrone, CHA, serves as President and CEO. HE presently has 46 properties in its portfolio. For more information, visit www.hotelequities.com.

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