



Atlanta to host 8th Annual Diversity in the Hospitality Industry Summit
-Important forum focuses on building minority success and features top keynote speakers -

ATLANTA (Jan. 19, 2007) – Atlanta Convention & Visitors Bureau (ACVB) is pleased to host the 8th Annual Diversity in the Hospitality Industry Summit, Feb. 15-16, 2007 at the Hyatt Regency Atlanta.

The summit will focus on building minority success within the hospitality industry and will highlight strategies for hotel ownership, profitable event planning and effective workforce recruitment. The forum will also feature several top keynote speakers including Robert Steele, chairman of the American Hotel & Lodging Association and Michael Roberts, chairman of the National Association of Black Hotel Owners Operators and Developers Chairman.

“Since 1999, the ACVB has channeled our energy into making sure that diversity is alive and well in the Atlanta tourism and hospitality industry,” said Kathleen Bertrand, ACVB vice president of community affairs. “This year’s Diversity Summit continues to offer insight on how to grow and foster this essential initiative.”

Atlanta is known as the number one city for African American meetings* and the minority convention & meetings market has proven to be a vital economic generator. In 2006 alone, the minority meetings market segment brought nearly 400,000 attendees to the destination and had an economic impact of \$337.9 million.

For additional information on the 8th Annual Diversity in the Hospitality Industry Summit including speaker bios, detailed program and registration, please visit www.atlanta.net/diversitysummit.

Established in 1913, ACVB is a private, nonprofit organization created exclusively to market metro Atlanta and Georgia as a premier convention, meeting and leisure destination in the regional, national and international marketplace and to favorably impact the Atlanta economy through conventions and tourism. For more information, visit www.atlanta.net.

**According to a study conducted by the Travel Industry Association of America.*

For more information, please contact ACVB Public Relations:

Lauren Jarrell
Director
404.521.6649

Jessica Lumsden
Specialist
404.521.6645

Suzanne Forte
Specialist
404.521.6632

Tara Burnham
Assistant
404.521.6398

ljarrrell@atlanta.net

jlumsden@atlanta.net

sforte@atlanta.net

tburnham@atlanta.net