



Port Marketing Director to Receive J. Lee Barrett Award

DETROIT, Mich., Jan. 27 /PRNewswire/ -- The Detroit Metro Convention & Visitor Bureau (DMCVB) has selected Cheryl Graham Solomon to receive the J. Lee Barrett Award for bringing the 2012 American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA) National Convention to Detroit. She will receive the award on Thursday, January 29, 2009 during the DMCVB Annual Meeting to be held at the Motor City Casino from 10:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

"It is humbling to be honored and recognized for work that I enjoy very much," says Graham Solomon. She is the Marketing Director for the Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority (DWCPA), responsible for its promotion, advertising and public information activities. She is the organization's liaison to various units of governments, business, community groups and the international community. Graham Solomon has formerly served as Assistant to the Mayor of the City of Detroit, responsible for the international affairs and trade activities for the Mayor's Office. She has earned a Masters of Arts degree in International Politics and Economics from the University of Detroit and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Spelman College.

In 2012, The Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority will host the AAPA National Convention. This National Convention is a weeklong convention that attracts hundreds of seaport and maritime transportation leaders, industry experts and service providers to participate in a business agenda. The estimated direct spending for the convention is \$2,504,500. The AAPA is a trade association that represents deep draft public port authorities throughout the U.S., Canada, Latin America and the Caribbean. Its mission is 'to protect and advance the common interests of its diverse members as they connect their communities with the global transportation system.'

The DWCPA was created in 1978 by the State of Michigan enabling legislation; The Port Authority Act. Its mission is 'to promote commerce and to enhance trade opportunities within the global marketplace through the Port of Detroit, by implementing creative economic development solutions that complement its governing units.' It is principally funded by the City of Detroit, Wayne County and the State of Michigan and each government body is represented on its Board of Directors.

SOURCE Detroit/Wayne County Port Authority

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