



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(* **Media invited to attend competition**
July 19-20, 2008

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Tasting & Awards Benefit
August 16, 2008

For more information, visit:
www.longbeachgrandcru.org

**LONG BEACH GRAND CRU WELCOMES
NEW MEMBERS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
Prominent Business, Community Leaders Help Non-Profit Fundraiser

Long Beach, CA – February 8, 2008 --- The Long Beach Grand Cru is pleased to announce the members of the organization's 2008 Executive Board of Directors, overseeing the planning and execution of the 14th Annual Grand Cru Wine Competition and Public Tasting Benefit. The annual series of events, produced by the Long Beach office of the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, has grown from a modest wine tasting benefit in 1995 to become one of the most respected, professionally judged wine competitions in the nation.

Members of the 2008 Executive Board are: **Roni Gould**, Chair, *Ensemble Real Estate*, **Robert Jystad**, Vice Chair, *Channel Law Group, LLP*, **Kjell Karlsen**, Vice Chair, *Sea Launch Company, LLC*; **Susan LaPutz**, Secretary, *Windes & McClaughry*; **Ludmila Montoya**, *Founder & Executive Producer*. *Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles*: **Mario Salgado**, *Executive Director*; **Toby J. Rothschild**, *General Counsel*; *Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles*.

New Members of the Board of Directors are: **John Babala**, Esq., *Keesal Young & Logan*; **Juliana Guerriero**, Esq., *Cantrell Green Pekich Cruz & McCort*; **Scott Lazarus**, *Office Furniture Group, Inc.*; **Janice Maize**, *The Tuebner Maize Group – Smith Barney*;

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Michael J. Peters, UBS; Julian K. Quattlebaum, III, Esq., Channel Law Group, LLP.

Returning members of the Board of Directors are: Dan Berger, Chief Judge Competition – Honorary; Jane Benson, Esq., Moss Adams, LLP; Tania Dao, Corporate Counsel, T-Mobile USA Inc.; Elliott J. Dixon, Esq., Law Office of Elliott J. Dixon; Jeffrey DuChateau, Bantry Holdings; Marilyn S. Green, Esq., Cantrell Green Pekich Cruz & McCort; Wallace Hammons, Esq., Hammons Baldino, LLP; Jim Hogan, Carrara Marble Company of America, George Jones, Esq., Weiss & Jones; Jeff Leonard, ABM Janitorial Services; James M. McAdams, Esq., Pierry & McAdams, LLP, James Roberts, Esq., Ecoff & Salamons, LLP; Dave Sakamoto, Union Bank of California; Thomas G. Stolpman, Esq., Stolpman Krissman Elber & Silver; Susan Oliver Werner, Addington Confections; Silvia Zada, First Bank.

“We are thrilled to have so many prominent business leaders on our board,” said Grand Cru Founder & Executive Producer Ludmila Montoya. “These are the people who can really help us achieve the fundraising goals that have been established for us to help our low-income clients in civil legal matters.” Montoya pointed out that in addition to the board members, Grand Cru benefits from the services of over 200 volunteers who put in over 7,600 hours in 2007.

Proceeds from the annual summer events are expected to generate more than \$350,000 for the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles, which provides legal programs and services for low-income individuals and families, including assistance to escape domestic violence, avoid homelessness and obtain food and healthcare for children.

For more information, contact the Legal Aid Foundation’s Grand Cru office at 213-640-3894 or visit the website at www.longbeachgrandcru.com.

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