

**PRESS RELEASE:
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CONTACT: Monica V. Morales
DIRECT #: 210-421-0622
FAX # :210-682-4017
monica@insideoutmassmedia.com

Leaders of the Hospitality Community hold their first “City Leadership Forum” for the three San Antonio mayoral candidates to address specific concerns for the local Tourism Industry.

San Antonio, TX On Tuesday, January 27, 2009, members of the hospitality community will gather at the Menger Hotel to learn the positions of the three mayoral candidates concerning five major areas of concern to the local tourism industry.

FEATURED MAYORAL CANDIDATE PANEL: JULIAN CASTRO, DIANE CIBRIAN & TRISH DEBERRY MEJIA will address previously submitted questions concerning the use of the hotel tax revenue, capital improvements to the city, visitor safety and other issues pertinent to the growth and stability of industry in panel discussion moderated by Jim Forsyth of WOAI Radio News

Event Date: JANUARY 27, 2009

Time: 6:00PM-8:00PM - PANEL DISCUSSION BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 6:00PM

Location: MENGER HOTEL GRAND BALLROOM

204 Alamo Plaza, San Antonio, Texas 78205

For more information visit: <http://www.sanantonio-lodging.org>

This event is underwritten by the Alamo Area Hospitality Association, the DMC Roundtable, the San Antonio Concierge Association, the San Antonio Area Tourism Council, the San Antonio Hotel & Lodging Association and the San Antonio Restaurant Association.

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BACKGROUND: In 2006 a study on local tourism indicated over 26 million visitors visited San Antonio. Of these, 11 million were overnight leisure guests - making San Antonio the #1 destination in Texas. Economically, the industry provides over \$125 million in paid taxes and fees to the city and over \$222 million to all local government agencies. By end of 2006, 100,294 local citizens were employed in our local industry - 1 in every 8 workers in this community is a hospitality colleague.