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**ISLAND HOTEL NEWPORT BEACH ACHIEVES “COMMITMENT TO QUALITY”  
AWARD FROM LEADING HOTELS OF THE WORLD**  
*Newport Beach Property Also Attains AAA’s Five Diamond Designation  
for 17<sup>th</sup> Consecutive Year*

NEWPORT BEACH, CA (December 5, 2008) – Continuing its enduring commitment to excellence, Island Hotel Newport Beach has been cited as a “Best Hotel in the USA and Canada” by the Leading Hotels of the World – the world’s largest international luxury hotel brand – at its annual Convention.

Leading Hotels recently announced a series of prestigious accolades at the company’s 2008 International Convention in Boston, naming Island Hotel Newport Beach as one of five top regional winners in the “Commitment to Quality” Awards – acknowledging member hotels whose “concept of service extends beyond their immediate walls and whose exceptional efforts exert a positive impact on the world in the areas of environment, community outreach and cultural support.”

To determine the winners, Leading Hotels staff recently conducted a series of rigorous inspections anonymously, examining accommodations, service, cuisine and special features.

These special “quality” awards were bestowed on hotels that exceeded the company’s stringent criteria, and received the very highest scores. Leading Hotels and Leading Small Hotels were recognized in five regions: Africa/Middle East, Asia/Pacific, Europe, Mexico/Caribbean/South America and the United States/Canada.

As further testament to Island Hotel's unwavering focus on service and quality, for the 17<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the property received a 2009 Five Diamond Award from AAA, the most respected lodging and restaurant rating system in the industry. Its signature fine dining venue, Palm Terrace, also earned a Four Diamond designation for the second year in a row.

According to Richard R. Evanich, managing director of Island Hotel, these awards are reflective of the skill and diligence of an exceptionally talented and dedicated staff of professionals. "Both Leading Hotels and AAA set an exacting standard for excellence in the luxury hotel arena, and we are proud of the hard work of our staff, and honored by the recognition."

### **About Island Hotel Newport Beach**

Just minutes from Newport Harbor overlooking the nearby islands of Balboa, Lido and Catalina, Island Hotel Newport Beach features amenities such as Palm Terrace Restaurant & Lounge; a 4,000-square-foot spa; a 3,000-square-foot resort-style pool; a fitness center; two outdoor, lighted tennis courts; and over 30,000 square feet of meeting space. The hotel is owned and operated by The Irvine Company, a 110-year-old, privately held real estate investment company based in Newport Beach, CA.

For reservations and more information, please contact Island Hotel Newport Beach, toll-free, at 1-888-321-4752; or visit the website at [www.IslandHotel.com](http://www.IslandHotel.com).

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