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LOCAL RESIDENT RECEIVES J. WILLARD MARRIOTT AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

WASHINGTON – May 24, 2005 – Local resident Jeffrey Hattrick, Afternoon Tea Maitre' d for The Ritz-Carlton, Phoenix, was among 13 select Marriott International, Inc. (NYSE:MAR) worldwide employees honored tonight with the J. Willard Marriott Award of Excellence, the 133,000-employee company's highest form of recognition.

When Hattrick came to work for The Ritz-Carlton, Phoenix nearly six years ago in the banquets department, it didn't take long for his supervisors to recognize his flair for elegance and presence. "Do what you need to do to create the best tea experience in Phoenix," they said.

Hattrick did just that, taking a department that didn't exist and single-handedly turning it into a revenue-generating center of social activity that has put Afternoon Tea at The Ritz-Carlton, Phoenix on the map.

He's a featured monthly guest on "Sonoran Living" as host of "A Cup of Tea with Jeffrey;" has become an icon in Phoenix, listed by name as ninth on the list of "Top 101 Things to do in Phoenix" by *Arizona Foothills* magazine; and has helped put The Ritz-Carlton at the top of the list as "Best High Tea" by *Phoenix* magazine.

"My job is making sure that every guest has the best experience possible, leaves with a smile on their face and a memory they'll never forget," he says.

Established in 1987 in honor of the company's founder, the Award of Excellence is presented to Marriott employees nominated by their supervisors or peers for their outstanding performance, and for demonstrating the five key traits inscribed on the award medallion: achievement, character, dedication, effort and perseverance.

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Hattrick received an all-expense paid trip for two to Washington, D.C., for a three-day celebration, and was recognized at tonight's special awards gala at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C. The gala, broadcast to Marriott locations across the United States, was viewed by more than 2,000 associates, family members and business partners.

"At Marriott, the spirit to serve is more than a goal. It's our business," says J.W. Marriott, Jr., chairman and chief executive officer of Marriott International. "Our Award of Excellence honorees set the standard for excellence in serving our guests and associates, fostering diversity across our company, and supporting our communities. Outstanding contributions like theirs give our company its strength and competitive edge, and allow us to realize our vision to be the number one lodging company in the world."

MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL, INC. (NYSE:MAR) is a leading lodging company with more than 2,600 lodging properties in the United States and 65 other countries and territories. Marriott International operates and franchises hotels under the Marriott, JW Marriott, The Ritz-Carlton, Renaissance, Bulgari, Residence Inn, Courtyard, TownePlace Suites, Fairfield Inn and SpringHill Suites brand names; develops and operates vacation ownership resorts under the Marriott Vacation Club International, Horizons, The Ritz-Carlton Club and Marriott Grand Residence Club brands; operates Marriott Executive Apartments; provides furnished corporate housing through its Marriott ExecuStay division; and operates conference centers. The company is headquartered in Washington, D.C., and has approximately 133,000 employees. It is ranked as the lodging industry's most admired company and one of the best places to work for by Fortune® magazine. In fiscal year 2004, Marriott International reported sales from continuing operations of \$10 billion. For more information or reservations, please visit our web site at www.marriott.com.

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