



For Immediate Release:
Jan. 31, 2011

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AOBA Announces 2011 Leadership

Washington, DC – At its Annual Meeting on Jan. 28th, the Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington introduced the organization’s 2011 Board of Directors and Advisory Council. These local real estate industry executives will guide the Association’s policies and programs for the year.

Benjamin A. Comm, Managing Director, Cassidy Turley, was installed as 2011 AOBA President. A 27-year industry veteran, Comm joined the predecessor to Jones Lang LaSalle in 1989 and remained with the company – in its many forms - for 20 years. In 2009, he joined Cassidy Turley and he is currently responsible for overseeing property management services as well as profit and loss for the firm’s 35 million-square-foot Mid Atlantic portfolio.

In discussing AOBA’s priorities for the year, Comm said, “We will continue our critical focus on **effective advocacy** and helping our members meet their **sustainability** goals – with an eye toward reasonable, smart green policies. We will also maintain our focus on **education**, including offering programs on energy efficiency and LEED. To help strengthen the Association’s future, we are excited to support our new **Rising Leaders Network**, and I will be encouraging members to get their talented staff engaged in AOBA programs during the year.

In addition to Comm, the following individuals were elected to the Board of Directors:

President – Elect: F. Carlton Diehl, Vice President of Property Management, McCaffery Interests

Executive Vice President/Secretary: Margaret “Peggy” Jeffers, Executive Vice President, AOBA

Treasurer: Caroline Kruger, Regional Property Manager, Boston Properties

Associate Representative: Lynda M. Ellis, President/CEO, Capitol Concierge, Inc.

Vice President – Commercial: Joan Berman, Senior Vice President, Vornado/ Charles E. Smith

Vice President – Residential: Cynthia M. Clare, President, Kettler Management

Vice President – DC: Sean Warfield, Senior Property Manager, Tishman Speyer Properties

Vice President – Maryland: David H. Hillman, CEO, Southern Management Corporation

Vice President – Virginia: Morton I. Fungler, Chairman, CRC Commercial

PAC Chair – DC: Mark Benedetti, Vice President for Property Management, Blake Real Estate, Inc.

PAC Chair – Maryland: Gary L. Campbell, President, Grady Management, Inc.

PAC Chair – Virginia: Robert Koltiska, V.P. – State & Local Tax Dept., Archstone

Past President: John Ritz, President, William C. Smith + Co.

Past President: Katya Naman, Senior Vice President, Lowe Enterprises, Inc.

Also at the Annual Meeting, the organization installed the members of its active 2011 Associates Coalition Team (ACT). **Marshall Gross**, CFO/Controller, P & R Enterprises, Inc., was honored as the **2010 Outstanding Associate Member**. Mr. Gross was lauded for helping to organize the Association's annual Prince George's Community College Scholarship Program, his vigilance in developing by-laws for the ACT group, and his strong support of all AOBA community outreach projects. ##

AOBA is the local affiliate of the Building Owners and Managers Association International (BOMA) and the National Apartment Association (NAA). As the Washington area's largest association for office and apartment home owners and managers, AOBA plays a vital role in the prosperity of the region. AOBA provides members with valuable expertise on issues that affect business success such as taxes, utilities, building codes and regulations and energy and environmental issues. For more info about AOBA, please visit www.aoba-metro.org.