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MPEA Welcomes New Board Member

Distinguished attorney combines professional accomplishments with valuable business experience

CHICAGO -- The Board of the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority (MPEA), has welcomed new member Robert Allen Novelle, Jr. Governor Rod R. Blagojevich recently appointed the Chicago-area attorney to fill the vacancy left by John Ruel.

Novelle is the founder of Novelle Law Associates, L.L.C. of Westchester, Illinois, where he specializes in personal injury and criminal cases, real estate transactions and adoptions. Novelle also created the Ellevon Real Estate Brokerage Corporation, where he oversees all real estate transactions. He is also a former law partner at the firm of Serpico, Novelle, Petrosino and Rascia.

"We are very pleased to have Robert join the Board at such an exciting time," said Ted Tetzlaff, Chairman of the MPEA Board. "His legal, real estate and business skills will prove invaluable as we continue to implement new strategies to better serve our customers at both of our world-class facilities."

Last year, MPEA facilities generated more than \$4 billion in economic activity in the region.

Juan Ochoa, Chief Executive Officer of the MPEA, also welcomed Novelle to the Board.

"Robert is a highly motivated, highly skilled individual who is a team player with a strong work ethic," said Ochoa. "His dedication and commitment make him a welcomed addition to our MPEA Board."

The MPEA is a municipal corporation that owns and operates McCormick Place, the premier convention center in North America and Navy Pier, the #1 tourist attraction in the Midwest. The MPEA Board consists of thirteen members; six are appointed by the Governor of Illinois and seven by the Mayor of Chicago, including the Board Chairman.

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