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AAHOA Statement on the Passing of Arne Sorenson

ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 16 – AAHOA President & CEO Cecil P. Staton issued the following statement on the unexpected passing of Marriott International President & CEO Arne M. Sorenson:

“Arne Sorenson was a visionary hospitality executive, and we are deeply saddened by his sudden passing. As one of the first CEOs with whom I met after joining AAHOA, he was an approachable leader – always ready to listen, to learn, and to share his views and advice. He had a profound impact on Marriott and the broader hospitality industry and was a champion for equality and opportunity. AAHOA Members knew Arne as a huge supporter and advocate of the association, and he was a considerable presence at AAHOA’s conventions, conferences, and young professional events. Arne embodied the spirit of hospitality, and owners valued his accessibility, engagement, and passion for his work. As thousands of hoteliers and millions of workers struggled with the economic fallout of the pandemic, Arne could be counted on as a beacon of optimism despite the health challenges he faced. On behalf of AAHOA Members, I offer our condolences to the Sorenson family, his colleagues at Marriott International, and every individual who was lucky enough to be impacted by Arne and his life's work. The hospitality industry lost an invaluable leader yesterday, but we will all continue to benefit from the sizeable impact Arne made through his work, dedication, and significant contribution to our industry.”

About AAHOA:

AAHOA is the largest hotel owners association in the world. The over 19,500 AAHOA members represent almost one in every two hotels in the United States. With billions of dollars in property assets and hundreds of thousands of employees, AAHOA members are core economic contributors in virtually every community. AAHOA is a proud defender of free enterprise and the foremost current-day example of realizing the American dream.

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