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500 Festival Elects New Officers, Adds Nine Civic Leaders to Board of Directors

INDIANAPOLIS (Sept. 1, 2010) - The 500 Festival Board of Directors recently elected its 2010-2011 officers and welcomed nine new civic leaders to serve on its 35-member board.

Newly-elected officers include:

- *Chairman of the Board – Tom McGowan, President and COO, Kite Realty Group
- Vice Chairman – Scott Thiems, Executive Vice President, Regions Bank
- Secretary – Greg Fennig, Vice President, Supply Chain and Public Affairs, Indianapolis Power & Light

The nine new directors are:

- Kris Altice, General Counsel, Shiel Sexton Company, Inc.
- John Boss, Executive Vice President, Aon Risk Services Central, Inc.
- Doug Brown, Partner and Senior Vice President, Public Affairs Group, Bose McKinney & Evans LLP
- Justin Christian, President and CEO, BC Forward
- Dave Lindsey, CEO and Founder, Defender Direct, Inc.
- Kevin McGrath, COO, Crowe Horwath, LLP
- Natalie Roberts, Vice President, Human Resources and Public Affairs, Monarch Beverage Company
- Pat Walsh, Executive Vice President, COO and CFO, Emmis Communications
- Don Welsh, President and CEO, Indianapolis Convention & Visitors Association

Tom McGowan is the President and Chief Operating Officer at Kite Realty Group Trust. As an executive of Kite Realty Group, which is a publicly traded real estate investment trust, Mr. McGowan is responsible for operational and organizational functions of the company. The company has amassed more than \$1 billion in assets and is active in 10 states across the country.

Prior to Kite Realty Group's initial public offering in August of 2004, Mr. McGowan had been Executive Vice President and one of the four partners of Kite Companies since 1994. A veteran of nearly 25 years in the real estate industry, Mr. McGowan had worked eight years for Mansur Development Corporation prior to joining Kite Companies.

Mr. McGowan is a life-long resident of Indianapolis and has been involved with many community organizations. Currently, Mr. McGowan serves on the boards of M&I Bank (Indiana), Indiana Housing & Community Development Authority (Gubernatorial Appointee) and the 500 Festival.

*Editor's Note – A photo of Tom McGowan, Chairman of the Board, is available upon request.

The mission of the 500 Festival is to advocate and celebrate the spirit, heritage and legacy of the Indianapolis 500®. Through social, cultural and educational events and programs, the 500 Festival enhances the quality of life for all citizens of our community.

The 500 Festival, a not-for-profit volunteer organization, was created in 1957 to organize civic events celebrating the greatest race in the world. Over the past 53 years, the 500 Festival has grown to become one of the largest festivals in the nation.

Last year, more than 500,000 Hoosiers and visitors participated in nearly 50 events and programs throughout the month of May. Whether they were athletes running the Mini, fourth grade students participating in the Education Program, families enjoying the state's largest festival for kids or spectators being dazzled by one of the nation's premier parades, they were there, celebrating the legacy.

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