MAYOR TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR CELEBRATION OF DIVERSITY AWARDS

Deadline for applications is October 30

INDIANAPOLIS – (September 30, 2008) The office of Mayor Greg Ballard is currently accepting applications for the annual Mayor’s Celebration of Diversity Awards (MCOD). The awards will be presented to businesses and organizations throughout Marion County that embrace, celebrate and apply holistic inclusion and participation of a diverse people, making the workplace a better environment in which to work and the community a better place in which to live, work and raise a family.

Recognition will be given for outstanding performance in the following four (4) categories:

- **Community Relations** - Activities that encourage and support diversity in the community
- **Development** - Opportunities for diversity strategies within the organization
- **Leadership** – Vision develops and supports diversity strategies throughout the organization
- **Workforce Diversity** – Diversity representation in the workplace

Also, the special **Sam H. Jones Award**, named in honor of the first president of the Indianapolis Urban League, who was a tireless advocate for peace, justice and understanding, is the top award given. It recognizes a business or organization with the strongest performance in all of the four categories, the “**Best of the Best**”.

Nomination forms are available online at [http://spwpv03:1707/eGov/Mayor/Diversity/Diversity_Award/Pages/home.aspx](http://spwpv03:1707/eGov/Mayor/Diversity/Diversity_Award/Pages/home.aspx) or by calling 317-327-5262. Nominations may be submitted online or postmarked by Thursday, October 30, 2008 at 4:00 P.M.

The Diversity Awards Committee will continue to acknowledge the great strides being made by businesses and organizations in their commitment and dedication towards diversity and inclusion. The 2009 MCOD Award winners will be honored and recognized at this year’s Celebration of Diversity Awards Luncheon that will be held Thursday, January 29, 2009 at the Marriott-Downtown.

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