

CONTACT: Liz Overbeck/Stuart Rosenberg
Studio Communications
713-524-2800
liz@studiocommunications.net/
stuartr@studiocommunications.net

**WENDY KEIM JOINS HOUSTON'S HOTEL SORELLA AS BUSINESS TRAVEL SALES MANAGER;
DEBUTING JULY 2009, FLAGSHIP PROPERTY TO ANCHOR CITYCENTRE MIXED-USE DEVELOPMENT**

HOUSTON, TX – January, xx, 2009 – Wendy Keim brings nearly 25 years of diverse travel industry experience in relationship management, policy and compliance, plus agency, corporate and consumer sales and service to her new role of business travel sales manager at Hotel Sorella. Keim joins the pre-opening team of the 244-room, luxury property, which is located in close proximity to Houston's Westchase and Energy Corridor business districts, in addition to the affluent Memorial residential area. Debuting in July 2009, the hotel will serve as a flagship for the Sorella brand, an inspired hospitality concept from Houston-based Valencia Group, as well as a key anchor for CITYCENTRE, a dynamic, pedestrian-friendly mixed-use development also under construction.

Prior to joining Hotel Sorella, Keim was the business travel sales manager for the DoubleTree Hotel Houston Intercontinental Airport, a position she held for two years. From 2001 until 2006, she was employed by American Express in their corporate services division. While with American Express, she managed portfolios in the hundreds of millions of dollars while working with energy-related clients such as Shell and Halliburton. She began her employment there as manager of account development and was later promoted to general manager and ultimately global account relationship manager.

From 1999 until 2001, Keim was an account development manager for Amadeus North America. In this capacity she maintained 60 accounts in a five state territory, including Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Florida. Before that, she held district sales management positions with Celebrity Cruises and Certified Vacations Group. Keim started her career with American Airlines, where she worked for five years. Her first role within the company was marketing support representative, and she departed as an inside sales representative managing approximately 125 agencies.

A graduate of the University of New Orleans with a BA in Communications, Keim is a member of the Texas Business Travel Association and SKAL International.

About Valencia Group

Valencia Group, a Houston-based company, develops and operates full-service luxury hotels - most notably Hotel Valencia Santana Row in San Jose, California, and Hotel Valencia Riverwalk in San Antonio, Texas. Set in the cultural heart of each city, Valencia Group hotels fuse globally-inspired modern design with Mediterranean influences, becoming popular destinations for both guests and visitors. Other properties within the Valencia Group include Hotel Sorella (Houston, Dallas, TX); The Lancaster Hotel (Houston, TX); Hotel Georgia (Vancouver, Canada) and Lumière (Telluride, CO). Valencia Group continues to forge its position as a mixed-use anchor with projects under development in Vancouver, Houston and Austin, where the right balance of residential, retail and office are creating irreplaceable assets in great urban settings. For more information, please visit www.valenciagroup.com.

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