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CHAMBER CELEBRATES 147TH ANNIVERSARY WITH FOCUS ON LEADERSHIP

Acclaimed filmmaker Brett Culp delivers keynote remarks

SAN DIEGO (Feb. 6, 2018) – As the region’s leading voice for business, the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce has played an important role in driving our region forward and creating an environment for business to succeed for 147 years. Tonight, nearly 1,000 business, community, and elected leaders will gather for the organization’s Anniversary Celebration. The event will celebrate the Chamber’s partners and members and the accomplishments achieved over the past year. The Chamber will also share its priorities for 2018, which include a focus on leadership and inviting each person across the region to #TakeTheLead. Included among the event’s distinguished attendees are featured speaker Brett Culp and County Supervisor Kristin Gaspar, who will share an update from County government and recognize the Chamber’s 2018 Board of Directors.

“The Chamber has grown in its ability to serve the region with new leadership programs that are cultivating the next generation of leaders,” said Jerry Sanders, Chamber President and CEO. “Together with our partners in business and the community we are taking steps to make a meaningful impact on San Diego.”

The Chamber’s goals for the year center on leadership. This includes taking the lead as the region’s authoritative voice on issues of critical importance to the business community, such as the Convention Center, NAFTA and comprehensive immigration reform, and expanding the Chamber PAC. It also marks the next chapter for LEAD San Diego, which became a Chamber affiliate in 2017.

“Together with LEAD, the Chamber has a real opportunity to engage even more San Diegans who want to be involved and give back to our region and I am excited to be part of that growth,” said Chamber Board Chair, Sam Attisha, Senior Vice President and Region Manager of Cox Communications. “By developing leaders of tomorrow invested in the future of San Diego we will continue to propel the region forward as a great place to do business.”

The evening's keynote address from acclaimed filmmaker Culp will focus on the potential each of us has for leadership that together builds stronger communities and makes a greater impact. With his film "Legends of the Knight," Culp pioneered a ground-breaking approach to community building and relationship-driven engagement while raising nearly \$100,000 for charity through the passion of local volunteers.

The Chamber also will present two awards to local leaders who have made a difference in the community and represent what truly makes San Diego unique.

- Susan Salka, CEO, President and Director of AMN Healthcare, will receive the "Moving San Diego Forward" award, which recognizes an individual whose work is improving San Diego, and putting it on the map. Salka is recognized for leading AMN to the top of its industry as well as her commitment to helping others achieve their personal and professional goals and the advancement of women.
- Herb Johnson will receive the "Herb Klein Spirit of San Diego" award, which honors someone who has made a significant and lasting impact on our region. Johnson is well known for his 11-year leadership as president and CEO of San Diego Rescue Mission, during which he grew the organization's capabilities in serving the region's homeless population.

For highlights from the 2018 Anniversary Celebration, search the hashtags #Chamber147 and #TakeTheLead on social media.

About the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

The San Diego Regional Chamber is the hub for connections and collaboration among the regional business community, and uses that clout to advocate for public policies and candidates that support economic growth and the creation of jobs for all businesses. As the largest local Chamber on the West Coast, representing approximately 2,500 businesses and an estimated 300,000 jobs, the San Diego Regional Chamber is fighting to make San Diego the most business-friendly region in California. For more information, please visit SDChamber.org or call 619-544-1300.

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