

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SMG Cleveland names Travis Poppell as Director of Sales

Industry veteran brings 20+ years of experience to Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland

(CLEVELAND, June 1, 2018) – The Huntington Convention Center of Cleveland and the Global Center for Health Innovation, managed by SMG, announced the appointment of **Travis Poppell** as Director of Sales earlier today. Poppell will begin his new duties on June 4.

“Following an extensive national search, the Cleveland-based SMG team is delighted to welcome Travis to lead our successful sales team,” said **Ron King**, General Manager. “He brings more than 20 years of sales and leadership experiences across a broad spectrum within the convention and hotel industry. Travis has worked in sales and leadership positions in the convention center, hotel, and hospitality fields in Florida and Ohio and brings an extraordinary knowledge base to our facility at a time when we are experiencing extreme national and regional interest in our community as a convention destination.”

Poppell comes to the Huntington Convention Center after serving as Director of Sales at the International Exposition (I-X) Center for the past five years, developing and leading the facility's sales and marketing efforts and recruiting and cultivating major trade shows, conventions, and large consumer events.

Prior to arriving in Northeast Ohio in 2013, Poppell spent 16 years in the hotel industry in Florida, serving in a variety of sales, catering, and revenue director positions at the Wyndham Grand Orlando Resort Bonnet Creek, Hilton Orlando, Renaissance Orlando Resort at Sea World, Wyndham Westshore Tampa (now Westshore Grand), Radisson St. Petersburg (now St. Petersburg Marriott), Sheraton Suites Tampa Westshore, Hilton Tampa Airport, Embassy Suites Tampa Airport, and Sheraton Lakeside Orlando.

During his career, Poppell has overseen significant sales growth and earned team awards at multiple facilities, including consecutive Conrad Hilton Awards and the Renaissance Hotel National Sales Team of the Year.

About the facility

The Huntington Convention Center and Global Center, managed by SMG, provides 225,000 square feet of exhibit space, a 32,000-square-foot Grand Ballroom, 35 meeting and breakout rooms, a robust technology package, an expansive truck loading dock, and a 12.5-acre green roof with spectacular views of Lake Erie. The attached 600-room Hilton Cleveland Downtown Hotel features a 32-story tower filled with guest rooms, meeting space, ballrooms, and multiple dining and entertainment options.

About SMG

Celebrating its 40th anniversary and founded in 1977, SMG provides management services to more than 230 public assembly facilities including convention and exhibition centers, arenas, stadiums, theaters, performing arts centers, amphitheaters, equestrian facilities, science centers and a variety of other venues. With facilities across the globe, SMG manages more than 15 million square feet of exhibition space and more than 1.5 million sports and entertainment seats. As the recognized global industry leader, SMG provides venue management, sales, marketing, event booking and programming; construction and design consulting; and pre-opening services

for such landmark facilities as McCormick Place & Soldier Field in Chicago, Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco, Houston's NRG Park and the Mercedes-Benz Superdome in New Orleans. SMG also offers food and beverage operations through its concessions and catering companies, currently serving more than 140 accounts worldwide. For more information visit www.smgworld.com.