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CLIENT: WATG

PROJECT: Board of Directors Article

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TITLE: WATG Welcomes Enhanced Diversity with New Board Members

WATG, a renowned architectural and design firm specializing in the hospitality, leisure, and entertainment industries, has announced the election of two executives to their Board of Directors. This year, the Board welcomes the addition of newly elected Margaret McMahon, Sr. Vice President and Managing Director of the Wimberly Interiors New York office, along with Deborah Rosenblum, Vice President at WATG, who was re-elected for a second term. The two women join Muriel Muirden, elected previously, and comprise 50% of the elected board members. With three of the six director seats now filled by women, the WATG Board of Directors has further distinguished itself with equal representation by women, which is an unusual achievement in the architectural design world. This Board composite further demonstrates the progressive evolution of WATG as the firm celebrates 70 years of award-winning design. Joining McMahon, Muirden, and Rosenblum on the Board are Dave Moore, Rob Day, and Mike Seyle, who like Muirden, were each elected previously, and WATG CEO Mike Seyle.

Tasked with charting the course for the firm's enduring strategic vision, which includes client service and geographical expansion initiatives, among others, the WATG Board meets regularly to develop and assess key business goals, and provide oversight to the firm's current and future operations. As an example, Wimberly Interiors, which is headed by Margaret McMahon, emerged from this BOD process. Quarterly meetings are held in a variety of locations around the world, and to ensure a steady influx of fresh representation and insight, board members serve three-year terms which are staggered, with two of the six Board positions up for election every three years. In addition to having women now representing half of the Board of Directors, this year's elections were also noteworthy because voting was extended to significantly more employees, as a benefit from the company's new Employee Ownership Trust Program. This new program allows employees with two or more years of service an opportunity to vote for Board candidates, ensuring a greater number of employees have a "voice" in the

firm's future. Candidates are selected by the Board of Nomination Committee during an "open" nomination period which assists greatly in fostering a diverse cross section of experience, and fresh, insightful thinking.

In addition to WATG Chief Executive Officer Mike Seyle, the current Board of Directors team consists of the following individuals, representing broad-based experience and true to form, exceptional visionary capability:

Deb Rosenblum

Deborah is currently a Vice President in WATG's Honolulu office, where her range of skills includes concept through design development, documentation and construction administration, and extensive design expertise. Initially based in the Honolulu office, Deborah also served as the Managing Director in WATG's London office. Her design background originally focused on large international hospitality projects, with roles that varied from Project Designer to Project Manager, allowing her to develop a deep reservoir of hospitality project leadership experience. Deborah derives great satisfaction from seeing the impact her work has on those who visit her design projects.

Margaret McMahon

As Sr. Vice President and the head of Wimberly Interiors, WATG's full-service interior design practice, Margaret brings accomplished interior design experience across the entire spectrum of project work. Her vast design experience, from designing the acclaimed Bentley Suite at The St. Regis New York, to opening successful interior design offices in both Los Angeles and New York, have distinguished her as one who is an inspiring leader and true visionary in the world of interior design. Margaret's work is often featured in leading international design publications such as *Interior Design*, *Architectural Digest*, and *Hotel Design*, among others.

Muriel Muirden

Working from WATG's London office, Muriel is Executive Vice President of Strategy, a key service practice at WATG that offers clients pre-development strategic advice and support. With a truly global perspective that spans Europe, Africa, the Middle East, China, Central Asia, and other regions, she advises the firm's leaders on current tourism trends and market opportunities, while conducting proprietary research on evolving hospitality products and market dynamics. Brought up in the Far East and educated in Scotland, Muriel's rich background includes serving as an instructor in the Office of Executive Education at Harvard University, where she lectured on economic master planning for large land-use projects.

Dave Moore

Based in the WATG Singapore office, where he is Sr. Vice President, Chairman, and Managing Director, Dave brings over 25 years of experience spanning a wide range of project types and disciplines. Prior to his current position in Singapore, Dave served as the Managing Director of the Honolulu office, where he garnered diverse knowledge and expertise in mixed-use and urban developments that included intimate beachside retreats as well as luxury boutique properties. Chosen as a key part of the firm's expansion plan, Dave has taken the Singapore office from just four people to include over 80 talented designers that work collectively across all of the WATG service lines.

Rob Day

As Vice President, Director of Planning, Rob oversees the critical process of integrating a complex variety of components into a cohesive, forward-thinking design. His noteworthy contributions to WATG include re-establishing the Planning service line with the company in 1998. His background includes work on a wide variety of experience on hospitality, leisure, and urban mixed-use projects around the world, including the expansion of the Bei Da Hu resort in northeast China. Known for practicing a highly collaborative, team approach with clients, while in the London office Rob was tapped by the Ministry of Tourism in Morocco as their resort planning advisor for the ambitious *Plan Azur*, a nationwide tourism strategy to develop six coastal resort areas along the country's Mediterranean and Atlantic coasts.

Perry Brown

Perry serves as Senior Vice President of the WATG office, where his expertise is focused on site planning and design, project management, and construction management. Throughout his nearly 30 years, he has directed the design of numerous large scale hospitality projects around the world, including the now legendary Atlantis Paradise Island Resort and Casino in the Bahamas. Perry's background with WATG includes the distinction of serving as Managing Director of two office locations in the US, where he led multi-disciplinary creative teams. A member of the Board of Directors since 2014, his extensive international experience, from working in several global WATG offices, provides immeasurable value across a broad range of high profile projects.