

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Press Contact: jsteverson@wtcno.org

Michael W. Kearney selected to receive 2015 C. Alvin Bertel Award

Award ceremony to take place June 24, 2015

New Orleans, LA- Today the World Trade Center of New Orleans announced that Michael W. Kearney, Chairman and CEO of The Kearney Companies Inc., has been selected to receive the 2015 C. Alvin Bertel Award. Mr. Kearney will be honored at the annual C. Alvin Bertel Award ceremony and luncheon on Wednesday, June 24, 2015 at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel. The C. Alvin Bertel Award was established in 1967 and is presented each year to an individual who has made significant contributions to the Louisiana port community.

Mr. Kearney has extensive experience in the global shipping industry, and has been involved in the development of trade and commerce in the Port of New Orleans for over forty years. Mr. Kearney served as president of Neeb – Kearney & Company (1971) and the Jackson Kearney Group (1987). Mr. Kearney eventually became president of Transocean Terminal Operators which is now Ports America. In 1996, Mr. Kearney founded The Kearney Companies, Inc.

The Kearney Companies Inc. is a New Orleans-based third-party logistics company that serves the supply chain needs of many large importers and exporters in the Port of New Orleans. The company is engaged in third party warehousing and distribution, rail transloading and import/export freight forwarding in both New Orleans, LA and Savannah, GA.

Mr. Kearney is active in a number industry associations, formerly serving as the President of New Orleans Board of Trade; now serving on its executive committee. In 2010, he chaired the New Orleans Board of Trade Railroad Users Group Committee which established an open review process of the potential sale of New Orleans Public Belt railroad by the City of New Orleans to a consortium of Class I railroads. In 2012, he chaired the New Orleans Board of Trade Committee openly reviewed the demolition of the Claiborne expressway; which was a part of a proposal by Livable Claiborne Communities; which was ultimately defeated.

Mr. Kearney also serves on the boards of the New Orleans Business Alliance and Ochsner Baptist Hospital, as well as the Advisory Board of the World Trade Center of New Orleans. In 2012, Mr. Kearney was appointed by Governor Bobby Jindal to serve a 5 year term on the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans.

Mr. Kearney is a graduate of De le Salle High School and Tulane University with Bachelor of Arts degree. He has served as Chairman of the Board of St. Georges Episcopal School and on the Board of Trustees for Trinity Episcopal School.

Tickets to attend the award ceremony and luncheon can be purchased online at www.wtcno.org. Table options and sponsorship packages are also available; please contact Eliza Brierre at (504) 619-9834 or ebrierre@wtcno.org.

For additional information, please contact the World Trade Center of New Orleans at (504) 529-1601 or email info@wtcno.org.

About the C. Alvin Bertel Award

The C. Alvin Bertel Award was established in 1967 and is presented each year to an individual who has made significant contributions to the Louisiana port community. The award recipient is selected by a committee of eleven international trade, transportation, and economic development organizations in the New Orleans area. Nominating organizations include the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, City of New Orleans, International Freight Forwarders and Customs Brokers Association, Louisiana Maritime Association, Jefferson Parish, New Orleans Board of Trade, New Orleans Chamber of Commerce, Plaquemines Port, Harbor, & Terminal District, Port of South Louisiana, St. Bernard Port, Harbor, & Terminal District, and the World Trade Center of New Orleans.

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The World Trade Center of New Orleans (WTCNO) is the strongest international business organization in the Gulf Coast region, consisting of 1,000+ companies as well as high profile individual members. This membership base represents a diverse group of industry leaders, companies, professional organizations, and government institutions that include manufacturers, energy, agriculture, maritime, digital media, foreign consulates, and other interests. In 2014, member organizations were able to significantly contribute to the state's record-breaking exports, the total value of which exceeded \$65 billion. This strong international organization creates a variety of opportunities for its stakeholders with the objective to add wealth to its community as well as create jobs through international trade and related services while fostering business and economic development by engaging in allied activities. For more information, please visit www.wtcno.org.