



### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **LOCAL MEETING PLANNING ORGANIZATION EDUCATES PLANNERS ON ACCURATE CONTRACTING OF SERVICES**

**San Diego**-Tuesday, September 23, 2008. The San Diego Chapter of Meeting Professionals International (SDMPI) held their first educational program for the 2008-2009 year, "Defending Your Honor" at the chic Ivy Hotel in downtown San Diego.

This well attended program brought to light the importance of correctly contracting with hotels, venues, and entertainment to avoid confusion and potential lawsuits. Mr. Bob Pederson, President and Owner of Power Events & Training Group narrated the program, which included the expertise of Barbara Savaglio, local San Diego Attorney at Law.

This was a highly interactive educational program, which included audience participation in reviewing mock contracts, making changes, and overseeing the accuracy and timing of supplier delivery of services. The program culminated in a mock trial, with MPI Past President Pierre Charmasson acting as trial judge, and Bob Pederson representing the defendant, and Barbara Savaglio representing the plaintiff.

"Hands down one of the most powerful and informative programs" was the resounding feedback given by planners and suppliers in attendance. "We all look forward to the continued efforts of the San Diego Chapter to provide pertinent and accurate programs such as this throughout the year." For more information regarding the coming months educational and networking programs, please view the SDMPI website.

### **About the San Diego MPI Chapter**

Meeting Professionals International (MPI), the world's largest association for the \$102.3 billion meetings and events industry, is committed to positioning meetings and events as a key strategic component of an organization's success. The 525-member San Diego chapter of MPI, established in 1979, empowers its members to increase their strategic value with education, professional development and business growth opportunities. For more information, visit [www.sdmpi.org](http://www.sdmpi.org)

### **About Meeting Professionals International**

Established in 1972, Meeting Professionals International (MPI; [www.mpiweb.org](http://www.mpiweb.org) <<http://www.mpiweb.org>> ) is the largest association for the meetings profession with more than 20,000 members in 66 chapters and clubs. As the global authority and resource for the \$102.3 billion meetings and events industry, MPI empowers meeting professionals to increase their strategic organizational value through education and networking opportunities. Its strategic plan, *Pathways to Excellence*, is designed to elevate the role of meetings in business via: creating professional development levels to evolve member careers to positions of strategic understanding and influence; influencing executives about the value of meetings; and ensuring MPI is the premier marketplace for planners and suppliers.

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