



Howard Group

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Howard Group Welcomes Moore to New Community Affairs Division

Miramar Beach, Fla. (September 17, 2014) – Howard Group, a Northwest Florida portfolio real estate development company specializing in premier commercial developments and upscale resort residential properties, welcomes Leigh Moore to the company's new Community Affairs division. Moore works with local, state and federal governmental agencies, non-profit organizations and private companies as an advocate for responsible growth and development.

"Leigh's extensive experience in local community affairs and intimate knowledge of our area makes her the ideal person to advocate for the needs of our community," stated Keith Howard, President and CEO of Howard Group. "We support initiatives and projects in our area regardless of how they affect Howard Group developments because it benefits all citizens and businesses to help our community thrive."

Over the past 26 years, Howard Group and its team has invested time and resources into the local community to support the company's dedication to stewardship. Howard Group is dedicated to responsible and sustainable developments that enhance the natural beauty of the area while positively impacting the overall quality of life for current and future generations. Examples of long-term public/private partnerships of Howard Group include the Harbor Redevelopment Plan, the CR-30A Scenic Highway Designation, the FDOT expansion of US Highway 98 and the Beaches of South Walton's Tourist Development Council Guest Services kiosk.

To further the mission, Howard Group developed a Community Affairs division in the fall of 2013 and hired Moore as the director. The mission of Howard Group's Community Affairs division is to serve as an advocate by working with government officials and citizens to promote a balance between a robust business environment and the sustainability of the local communities.

In addition to years of business, management and human resources experience, Moore served as the Executive Director of the Scenic Corridor Association. The non-profit organization's

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mission is to preserve and protect the scenic nature of US Highway 98 in Walton County and US Highway 331 south of the Choctawhatchee Bay. Moore represented the organization throughout the region, provided external and internal communications and coordinated the implementation of a \$700,000 median beautification project.

“I am thrilled to be a part of the Howard Group team and am passionate about the initiatives we support to promote the sustainability and enrichment of our communities,” stated Leigh Moore, Director of Community Affairs for Howard Group. “We live, work and do business in a very special area, and it is critical that as many of us as possible come together to protect it and to continue to enhance what makes it so exceptional.”

Moore’s responsibilities include public speaking engagements, attending city and county meetings and extending professional advice and counseling to educate and support the public. Due to the increasing amount of development in Walton and Okaloosa Counties, Moore has recently stepped into the spotlight at County Commission and City Council meetings to educate the public on policies, introduce ideas regarding community issues, provide professional support and advocate for community awareness and involvement. Moore serves on various committees and boards including the Walton County Design Review Board, Walton County Tourist Development Council Destination Improvement Committee, South Walton Community Council, Scenic Corridor Association and the Historic Inlet Beach Neighborhood Association.

Howard Group is a portfolio real estate development company specializing in premier commercial, hospitality and residential developments in Northwest Florida. Established in 1988, Howard Group is responsible for the development of the acclaimed Silver Sands Premium Outlets. Howard Group’s latest project is the distinctive Grand Boulevard at Sandestin® Town Center, which includes two Marriott hotels, exclusive shops, destination restaurants, state-of-the-art office space, a lush park and Walton County’s first, state-of-the-art movie theater. The company also developed several upscale gulf-front resort and residential communities such as Vizcaya at Dune Allen and Stallworth Preserve. Heron Harbor is a future project in Destin that is being designed as a mixed-use community that will include retail, office, residential and marina components. For more information, visit www.howardgrp.com or call (850) 837-1886.

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