

## Local Business Leaders Honored in 5th Annual Most Admired CEO Awards

SAN DIEGO, December 8, 2011 – Local chief executive officers were honored in the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Most Admired CEO Awards, presented by the *San Diego Business Journal* and Bank of America Corporation. The awards program, one of the largest of its kind in San Diego, was held December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Paradise Point Resort and Spa, attracting more than 600 attendees.

“San Diego is fortunate to have so many high-caliber CEOs,” said Randy Frisch, president and publisher of the *San Diego Business Journal*. “As keynote speaker Garry Ridge, president and CEO of WD 40 said, we have lots of talented professionals, and the way to maintain that is to challenge ourselves to improve every day. We can do that.”

Organizations from all areas of San Diego’s thriving business community were represented from defense contracting to social services. These industry leaders were acknowledged for their successful foresight and guidance in steering their companies through our changing economic environment.

Highlighting the awards reception were three special presentations. The Lifetime Achievement Award was bestowed on Father Joe Carroll, president and CEO Emeritus of Father Joe’s Villages; The Exemplary Award went to Reid Carr, president and CEO of Red Door Interactive; and Ronne Froman, RADM (Retired), CEO and co-founder of National Veterans Services, Inc. and Monarch School received the Community Service Award.

From a field of 75 finalists, 18 CEOs were chosen by an independent panel of judges that included Sheryl Bilbrey, president and CEO of the Better Business Bureau of San Diego; Chris Bryant, president of the San Diego Employers Association; William Earley, partner at Luce Forward; and Ed Sternagle, principal of Creative Professional Services. The judges ranked nominations based on CEOs contributions to their companies and the community, with emphasis on innovation, leadership and results-based focus.

The 2011 Most Admired CEOs, listed by company category, are:

- Business Nonprofit /Large – Teresa Halleck, San Diego County Credit Union
- Business Nonprofit/Small – Ted Owen, Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce
- Family Owned/Large – Bill Howe, Bill Howe Family of Companies
- Family Owned/Medium – William Grande, Quality Controlled Manufacturing
- Family Owned/Small – Trevor Callan, Callan Capital
- Nonprofit Organization/Large – Ed Martinez, San Ysidro Health Center; Walter Philips, San Diego Youth Services
- Nonprofit Organization/Medium – Debbie Case, Meals-On-Wheels Greater San Diego; Mark Cafferty, San Diego Workforce Partnership
- Nonprofit Organization/Small – Chris Sichel, Make-A-Wish Foundation; William Pollakov, Bikes for Kids Foundation
- Private Company/Large – [Tom Gildred](#), [Emerald Textiles](#); John Morrell, Higgs Fletcher & Mack
- Private Company/Medium – Russ Mann, Covario; John Klinedinst, Klinedinst PC

- Private Company/Small – Jimmy Hendricks, Deal Current; Steven Sullivan, Sullivan International Group
- Public Company/Small – Nathan Rogge, Bank of Southern California

Partnering with the *San Diego Business Journal* for this annual event were Bank of America Corporation, the title sponsor; ESET, the gold sponsor; and silver sponsors Cassidy Turley/BRE Commercial, McGladrey and Paradise Point.

The award-winning weekly *San Diego Business Journal* examines the many ways that the San Diego economy operates. First-rate editorial and research teams provide in-depth analysis of the community's ever-changing business and economic scene. One of the *San Diego Business Journal's* most widely read features is The List, which ranks the top businesses in any given industry. Those surveys are then compiled into an invaluable resource – the annual Book of Lists.