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AAHOA Chairwoman Panwala Receives 2019 AHLA Advocacy Award

LAS VEGAS, Nev., Sep. 27 – AAHOA Chairwoman Jagruti Panwala is the recipient of the 2019 American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA) Advocacy Award. The award honors select individuals or organizations for exemplary engagement on behalf of the hospitality industry. Recipients are recognized as industry leaders among their peers and are careful stewards of hoteliers’ critical advocacy initiatives, from City Hall to Capitol Hill. AHLA President and CEO Chip Rogers and AHLA Chairman and Wyndham Hotel Group President and CEO Geoff Ballotti presented Panwala with the award at the 2019 Wyndham Global Conference held at the Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas.

“I am honored and humbled to receive the AHLA Advocacy Award,” said Panwala. “Advocacy is such a significant part of what we do at AAHOA and one of the most important things that we, as hoteliers, can do for our industry. Engaging with our elected officials, whether at a town hall or in the halls of Congress, ensures that we can help lawmakers understand our industry, the issues hoteliers face, and the impact of public policy on small businesses. I encourage all hotel owners to make advocacy a part of their business plan. It is our insurance against bad laws and regulations.”

“I’m so pleased to share our first AHLA Advocacy Award with someone I’ve had the privilege of working with who brought tremendous value to AAHOA, a strong partnership with AHLA and leadership in the industry. Jagruti understood the importance of engaging and educating lawmakers from the first moment she got involved in advocacy. To this day, she is one of the greatest champions of hoteliers when it comes to advocating for our industry,” said Chip Rogers.

“Jagruti has been a fierce advocate on behalf of the hospitality industry for many years and is a natural choice for the inaugural AHLA Advocacy Award,” said Geoff Ballotti, president & CEO of Wyndham Hotels & Resorts. “Whether meeting with lawmakers on Capitol Hill or inspiring a new generation of leaders as the first Chairwoman of AAHOA, we are grateful for her contributions on behalf of all hoteliers,” added Geoff Ballotti.

About AAHOA:

AAHOA is the largest hotel owners association in the world. The over 18,500 AAHOA members own almost one in every two hotels in the United States. With billions of dollars in property assets and hundreds of thousands of employees, AAHOA members are core economic contributors in virtually every community. AAHOA is a proud defender of free enterprise and the foremost current-day example of realizing the American dream.

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