

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONNECT Association Elects New Board Members

NBA Legend Bill Walton, CleanTECH Chair Jim Waring and Luce Forward Partner Phil Jelsma Join Board

SAN DIEGO, California (February 16, 2010) – CONNECT, regarded as the world's most successful regional program linking inventors and entrepreneurs with the resources they need for success, today announced the nomination and approval of Bill Walton, Jim Waring and Phil Jelsma as the newest members of the CONNECT Association 501(c)6 Board of Directors.

Jelsma is a Partner in the San Diego law firm of Luce, Forward, Hamilton & Scripps LLP where he specializes in tax law, with an emphasis on nonprofit corporations. He graduated from Stanford Law School in 1986 and from the University of Southern California in 1979 with a degree in Business Administration emphasis in Accounting. He has represented a number of nonprofit, tax-exempt entities in San Diego. He was until January 2010 a member of the CONNECT Foundation board and assisted CONNECT in setting up the c3 board of directors and bylaws. Currently, Jelsma teaches tax courses on the Taxation of Real Estate.

Waring is Board chair and co-founder of CleanTECH San Diego, a non-profit member organization designed to accelerate the region as a world leader in the clean technology economy. He is a board member of CONNECT and the San Diego Economic Development Corporation, as well as a member of the Mayor's Taskforce for Economic Development, and a Commissioner of the San Diego Housing Commission. Waring is the co-owner of FI Financial, LLC, a real estate and investment company. Waring was of Council to Ross, Dixon and Bell from 1982 to 2006. From January 2006 until August 2007 he was the city's Deputy Chief Operation Officer of Land Use and Economic Development where he managed the city's Development Services Department, City Planning & Community Investment, and Real Estate Assets.

Walton is Executive Chairman of CONNECT Sport & Entertainment Innovators, a initiative to provide business acceleration to the San Diego sports industry and professional sports teams. Walton plans to spin out the group as an independent trade organization in the next year. He is a three-time NCAA

Player of the Year (1972, 1973, and 1974) at UCLA, a first pick in the 1974 NBA draft, a Hall of Fame inductee and was selected as one of the NBA's fifty greatest players of all time. He is a former sports broadcaster, during which time he won multiple Emmy's throughout his 19 year career. In 2007, Walton was named one of the top 10 pundits in America by Forbes. That same year he was also named one of the top 20 Business Athlete representatives by TSE Sports and Entertainment Group. In 2009, Walton was named one of the top 50 broadcasters of all time by the American Sportscasters Association.

The CONNECT Foundation and Association are non-profit organizations dedicated to creating and sustaining the growth of innovative technology and life science businesses in San Diego. Founded in 1985, CONNECT has assisted in the formation and development of over 2,000 companies and is widely regarded as the world's most successful regional program linking inventors and entrepreneurs with the resources they need for success. The CONNECT Foundation focuses on research institution support, business creation and development, entrepreneurial learning, access to capital, awards, recognition and networking. The CONNECT Association focuses on public policy and advocacy. Almost 40 countries and regions have adopted the CONNECT model, including the U.K, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Australia, and China.

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Contact:

Ashley Strange

(858) 964-1330

astrange@connect.org
