



Jonathan Howe Named Hospitality Industry Attorney of the Year for 2008

*Academy of Hospitality Industry Attorneys Bestows Its Highest Honor
on this Chicago Attorney*

DENVER, CO. (May 5, 2008) -- Jonathan T. Howe, founding partner and President of the law firm of Howe & Hutton, Ltd., Chicago, has been named the first recipient of the Hospitality Industry Attorney of the Year by the Academy of Hospitality Industry Attorneys. The award was presented at the Academy's Spring Meeting on April 26, 2008 in Philadelphia.

Mr. Howe has been actively involved in hospitality legal issues in his law practice since the early 1970s. Throughout his legal career he has represented and consulted with the country's top hotels, travel and tour companies, as well as hospitality/food service companies, and various national and international tourism groups. In addition, he has served as a resource on the legal issues of the hospitality industry to such national media as the *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, the *New York Times*, and the *Chicago Tribune*. Howe is the legal editor for *Meetings & Conventions Magazine* where he writes an award winning monthly column, "The Law and the Planner." He is also contributing editor for *The Meeting Professional*.

His many recognitions in the hospitality industry include Meeting Professionals International's Industry Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Meetings Industry, the PaceSetters Award from the Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International, and the President's Award from the Religious Conference Management Association. He has been recognized many times by *Meeting News Magazine* as one of the "25 most influential in the meetings industry" and as one of "Fifteen Who Made the Difference for the Meetings Industry."

A graduate of Northwestern University, Mr. Howe earned his Juris Doctor with Highest Distinction from the Duke University School of Law where he graduated first in his class. He has lectured and taught courses on hospitality law worldwide, including courses at Duke University, DePaul University, and the Roosevelt University School of Hospitality Management in Chicago.

Mr. Howe said, "I feel most honored to have been nominated for this recognition. Among my proudest professional contributions is having been one of the catalysts to have founded and to serve this Academy."

The Academy, a non profit professional organization, was formed in 1995 by a group of attorneys from across the United States who represent clients or serve in-house for companies in the hotel, travel, tourism, convention, meeting and restaurant industries. In addition to offering industry-specific CLE programs twice a year, the association provides its members with a useful network of recognized and experienced hospitality attorneys and leaders.

AHIA membership is open only to qualified applicants who focus a substantial portion of their practices in the hospitality arena. Applications are subject to review and approval by the Board and members. For membership information and more details, contact Linda Card, Executive Director, at 303-892-6966 ext. 5 or Linda@ahiatorneys.org.

Media Contact: Deborah Dix ■ 303-753-9629 ■ ddix@comcast.net