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CONTACT:

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Editors: Hot air balloon photo attached

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**Windermere Celebrates Grand Opening
of Smoke Tree Office in Palm Springs April 4**

PALM SPRINGS (Calif.) — Windermere Real Estate Coachella Valley will celebrate the grand opening of its new Smoke Tree office on Saturday, April 4, in conjunction with the grand opening of the Smoke Tree Commons Shopping Center, company officials announced today.

The shopping center, located on East Palm Canyon Drive at Barona Road, features retailers and businesses that include Cost Plus World Market, Jensen's Finest Foods, Michael's, T.J. Maxx, PETCO, Postal Annex, McDonald's, Chipotle, Golden Spoon, Quizno's, Walgreen's, Wachovia and Wells Fargo Bank.

Windermere Real Estate Coachella Valley opened its first office in 2001 in Palm Springs at 850 N. Palm Canyon Drive, and now has 86 real estate professionals and broker manager David Cantwell operating out of that north Palm Springs location. "We are very excited to continue our phenomenal growth

More

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in the desert, and especially in our Palm Springs area. The new Smoke Tree Commons was a natural, not only for the high-end restaurants and retailers located in this thriving south end of Palm Springs, but for Windermere as well. Now we have more than 150 Windermere agents representing buyers and sellers at both ends of Palm Springs," Deville said.

In all, Windermere Real Estate Coachella Valley has 13 offices strategically located throughout the valley including on-site offices at The Springs and The Club at Morningside in Rancho Mirage, as well as in Garner Valley. A new 13,000-square-foot flagship office at 71-691 Hwy. 111 in Rancho Mirage is scheduled to open in April.

"As part of Windermere's participation in the opening festivities, Windermere will be giving away certificates for four rides in the Windermere hot air balloon," said Bob Deville, principal/owner of Windermere Real Estate Coachella Valley. To participate in the drawing, just fill out the complimentary form at Windermere's Smoke Tree office, located at 2465 E. Palm Canyon Drive, #605, near the Jensen's market. A public drawing will be held April 4 and a second drawing will be held May 6.

Many of Windermere's 62 agents at the Smoke Tree office will also be handing out helium balloons, according to Nathan Heibeck, broker manager of the Smoke Tree office. The grand opening event begins at 10 a.m.

Deville and co-owner Bob Bennion are not new to the real estate industry, with a combined real estate career of over 30 years. They opened their first Windermere office in Palm Springs in 2001 and have steadily and strategically grown Windermere to be the largest real estate company in the Coachella Valley

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and the leader in sales dollar volume, listing dollar volume and market share.

“Being number one is secondary to being the best,” Deville said. “When you never lose sight of that, everything else falls into place.”

For more information and to see current home listings, please call (760) 341-4141 or click online at www.WindermereCoachellaValley.com. The web site features local residential and commercial properties as well as upcoming open houses. Windermere’s award-winning, exclusive Premier Properties Program, featuring architecturally significant and high-end properties, can also be found at www.WindermerePremier.com.

About Windermere: Windermere Real Estate is the leading residential real estate network in the West with more than 385 offices and 8,500 associates serving neighborhoods in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Wyoming, Washington and British Columbia. Windermere has been consistently ranked as the largest regional real estate brand in the western United States by REAL Trends, a primary source of industry data. Windermere has a proud heritage of serving communities by way of the Windermere Foundation, which provides funding to social service agencies that offer housing and services to low-income and homeless children and families. Windermere's web site, Windermere.com, receives over 2 million unique visits per month, and is regarded as one of the leading real estate sites in the country in terms of customer usability.

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