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FOR HOSPITALITY EXCELLENCE

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PAUL PICKNELLY NAMED 2017 HOWDY SPOTLIGHT WINNER

The Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau (GSCVB) announced today that President of Monarch Enterprises Paul Picknelly has been selected as the 2017 winner of Howdy Awards for Hospitality Excellence Spotlight Award.

GSCVB Board Chair Michael Hurwitz said, “Paul Picknelly is an ideal choice for this very significant honor. The Spotlight Award is bestowed annually upon an individual or organization making a far-reaching positive impact on the regional visitor economy. Paul’s outstanding record of achievement in our area’s hospitality industry speaks for itself. He’s demonstrated great vision, created and sustained jobs, boosted local investment and helped move visitors to and through western Massachusetts.”

“Paul’s career has been filled with profound accomplishments,” added Bureau President Mary Kay Wydra. “He has been a real difference-maker in our tourism industry, and we are fortunate to count him among our leading lights.”

Wydra pointed out that Picknelly was instrumental in bringing MGM Springfield and thousands of jobs to the city. He also saved professional hockey by bringing the Springfield Thunderbirds and their economic impact to downtown.

“And that’s all on top of being a Director of the Massachusetts Convention Center Authority for many years,” said Wydra, “plus being a long-term hotelier as the owner of the Sheraton Springfield Monarch Place Hotel and the Hilton Garden Inn. Paul Picknelly has really done it all for the hospitality industry of western Massachusetts.”

Picknelly will be formally honored at the Howdy Awards for Hospitality Excellence banquet on Monday, May 15th at 6pm at the Log Cabin Banquet & Meeting House in Holyoke.