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**VANCOUVER SELECTED AS SITE OF THE 2010 DEMOCRATIC STATE CONVENTION**

**VANCOUVER, Wash.** – Vancouver has been selected as the site of the 2010 Democratic State Convention to be held June 25 and 26, 2010.

The convention is expected to draw as many as 2,100 attendees for the two day event. The event will include caucus meetings and a gala banquet on Friday evening at the Vancouver Convention Center followed by a congressional breakfast and the convention on Saturday at the Clark County Event Center.

The Southwest Washington Convention & Visitors Bureau worked with the Washington State Democrats Central Committee in the bidding and selection process to bring the convention here. Several other cities in Washington State were also being considered including Bellevue, Tacoma, Seattle, Spokane, Wenatchee, Tri-Cities and Yakima.

“The Washington State Democrats are excited about holding the 2010 State Convention in Vancouver. Southwestern Washington is a beautiful part of the state and there will be a lot to see and do before, during and after the Convention,” said Jaxon Ravens, Executive Director of the Washington State Democrats. “We were also impressed by the convention center, the hotel facilities and the friendliness and professionalism of the staff, all are top notch.”

“We are proud and honored to host our fellow Washington State Democrats for the convention and look forward to organizing fun and exciting events to welcome them and show off our community,” said Dena Horton, Chair of the Clark County Democratic Central Committee.

In addition to booking the Democratic State Convention, the Bureau announced earlier this year that it was successful in booking the 2010 Republican State Convention in Vancouver to be held June 10-12, 2010. Both conventions are expected to draw record numbers of attendees making them the largest conventions to be held in Vancouver in recent history.

This is a boon for Vancouver and the area hotels and businesses that will benefit from the estimated \$1 million in economic impact that each convention will provide. Although Hilton Vancouver Washington will be the host hotel for both conventions, a majority of the county’s hotels will be utilized for the overnight guest rooms.

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“Having this convention here is great for local businesses, our community and it recognizes the importance of Clark County in Washington State politics,” said Steve Stuart, Clark County Commissioner.

These conventions also provide further recognition to the region as a premier meeting destination helping to secure more convention business and providing economic returns into the future.

**About the SWCVB:**

The Southwest Washington Convention & Visitors Bureau is an economic development organization responsible for competitively marketing Vancouver and the surrounding area as a destination for meetings, conventions, and group and leisure travelers. The SWCVB is located at 101 E 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 240, Vancouver, WA 98660. You can reach the Bureau at 360-750-1553, or via e-mail at [info@southwestwashington.com](mailto:info@southwestwashington.com). You can also visit them on their web site at [www.SouthwestWashington.com](http://www.SouthwestWashington.com).

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