

For Immediate Release

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**Raleigh Marriott City Center Celebrates The Giving Season with Charity
Christmas Ornaments and Holiday Cocktails in Bar Posta**

Washington, D.C. (October 21, 2008) – The new Raleigh Marriott City Center invites patrons to get into the spirit of giving this November 24th with the official lighting of the hotel's charity **Giving Tree** at 6 p.m. Hotel guests and local patrons can choose from a variety of traditional holiday decorations hanging from the tree, with 100 % of the proceeds from the sale of each ornament going to the ***Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina***. The Giving Tree will be in place through December 25th, Christmas Day, with ornaments available for purchase at \$15 each.

The Marriott's upscale bar and lounge, Bar Posta, is also getting into the giving spirit, offering three new specialty holiday cocktails. One dollar from the sale of each of these drinks will also go to the ***Food Bank***. The holiday libations will launch with the tree lighting ceremony on November 24th and these compelling concoctions will be also available through December 25th ranging from \$11 to \$13 each. Drinks are fashioned by bartender, Gabriel Ramiez, a Raleigh resident of 10 years who delights in creating new intriguing flavor combinations. The holiday cocktails are as follows: the **Poinsettia**, made with Prosecco and cranberry juice garnished with sun-dried cranberries (\$11); the **Peppermint Martini** of Peppermint Schnapps, Dark Crème de Cacao and cream garnished with a candy cane (\$12), and the **Holiday Truffle**, created with White and Dark Godiva Chocolate liqueur, Bailey's Irish Cream garnished with a white and dark chocolate rim (\$13).

These charity-related opportunities are part of Marriott Hotels' "Spirit to Serve" Global Community Initiative, in which the company encourages giving back to the communities where its associates live and work.

The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina is a nonprofit organization that provides food to people at risk of hunger in 34 counties in North Carolina. Its mission is to harness and supply resources so that no one goes hungry in Central and Eastern North Carolina. For more information visit www.foodbanknc.org

The Raleigh Marriott City Center is situated at 500 Fayetteville Street. This premier 400-guest room hotel features a complimentary state-of-the art, 1,200-square-foot fitness center, indoor pool and whirlpool; an upscale restaurant, Posta Tuscan Grille, along with an expansive bar and lounge, Bar Posta, and a Starbucks. The hotel has high-speed Internet throughout, two executive floors and ten suites, 15,000 square feet of meeting and events space and is also conveniently connected internally to the new 500,000-square-foot Raleigh Convention Center. The well-appointed smoke-free guest rooms feature Marriott's luxury bedding and in-room amenities include high-speed wireless Internet, 37-inch flat panel LCD televisions, Smart Desks, iron/ironing board, coffee/tea maker and weekday newspaper.

About Marriott International, Inc.

MARRIOTT INTERNATIONAL, Inc. (NYSE:MAR) is a leading lodging company with more than 3,000 lodging properties in the United States and 66 other countries and territories. Marriott International operates and franchises hotels under the *Marriott*, *JW Marriott*, *The Ritz-Carlton*, *Renaissance*, *Residence Inn*, *Courtyard*, *TownePlace Suites*, *Fairfield Inn*, *SpringHill Suites* and *Bulgari* brand names; develops and operates vacation ownership resorts under the *Marriott Vacation Club*, *Horizons by Marriott Vacation Club*, *The Ritz-Carlton Club* and *Grand Residences by Marriott* brands; operates *Marriott Executive Apartments*; provides furnished corporate housing through its *Marriott ExecuStay* division; and operates conference centers. The company is headquartered in Bethesda, Md., and had approximately 151,000 employees at 2007 year-end. It is ranked as the lodging industry's most admired company and one of the best companies to work for by FORTUNE®, and has been recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with the 2007 Sustained Excellence Award and Partner of the Year since 2004. In fiscal year 2007, Marriott International reported sales from continuing operations of \$13 billion. For more information or reservations, please visit our web site at www.marriott.com.

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Noble is a leading sponsor of private equity real estate funds and an integrated operating and development organization that specializes in making value-added investments in hotels and resorts throughout North America. An award winning operator of more than 8,000 hotel and resort guest rooms, convention and conference centers with approximately 1 million sq. ft. of meeting space, as well as championship golf, day and resort spas, upscale restaurants, and branded retail coffee stores, Noble and its predecessors have realized superior risk-adjusted returns while acquiring and developing more than \$2.5 billion in lodging and hospitality assets. Noble's current discretionary private equity fund represents \$310 million of equity commitments, which provides the organization the ability to invest more than \$1 billion in lodging-related assets. For more information, visit www.nobleinvestment.com.

