Contact: Ryan Smith (919) 645-2676 rsmith@visitraleigh.com

MALINDA PETTAWAY RECOGNIZED AS TOMORROW'S LEADER BY MEETINGS PROFESSIONAL INTERNATIONAL – CAROLINAS CHAPTER

(RALEIGH, N.C.) May 2009 – The Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau is proud to announce Associate Director of Sales, Malinda Pettaway, has been recognized as Tomorrow's Leader by Meetings Professional International (MPI) – Carolinas Chapter.

This award recognizes an individual who has been a member of MPI for less than four years and in that time has made significant contributions to MPI and the meetings industry.

The Tomorrow's Leader award is based on MPI-CC service including: international and Chapter participation, industry contributions and community, articles written in the hospitality press, speaking engagements, and awards and professional recognition and career advancement designations among other factors.

"We are extremely proud of Malinda," said Denny Edwards, president and CEO of the Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau. "This is a tremendous honor for her and she continues to prove herself as a dedicated and committed leader to our organization, as well as the meetings and conventions industry."

Pettaway has been a part of the Bureau team since 2006 and in that time been promoted from National Sales Manager to Associate Director of Sales and has earned her Certified Association Sales Executive designation through Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA). She currently serves on the Board of Director's for both MPI and Association Executives of North Carolina which awarded her the coveted Patsy B. Smith Award in 2008.

The Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau, as the official destination and marketing organization of Raleigh and Wake County, accelerates sustainable economic growth and development by increasing visitor and convention business. Through its website www.visitRaleigh.com and other tools, the GRCVB assist local visitors in a variety of ways.