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Stacey Church Appointed as New COO of Georgia World Congress Center Authority

ATLANTA — Georgia World Congress Center Authority (GWCCA) today announced the appointment of Stacey Church as Chief Operating Officer (COO), effective February 10, 2025. Church joins the Authority's dynamic leadership team from Dallas Fair Park in Dallas, Texas where she served as general manager. Church is the third – and first female – COO in the 50-year history of GWCCA.

"Stacey's extensive experience and proven track record in operational leadership make her the ideal choice for this pivotal role," said Kevin Duvall, chief executive officer of GWCCA. "Her vision, dedication, and passion for the industry, cultivated over a distinguished career spanning more than two decades in venue management, will be invaluable as we continue to enhance the GWCCA campus and deliver compelling experiences to our guests and partners."

Church shared her enthusiasm for the role, stating, "I am honored to join GWCCA and contribute to its legacy of excellence. I look forward to working with our board, partners, and all of the talented team members to further the Authority's mission of driving continued economic vitality for the state while serving as one of the nation's top destinations for conventions and sporting and entertainment events."

Prior to her tenure at Dallas Fair Park, Stacey served almost five years as assistant general manager at the Kay Bailey Hutchison Convention Center in Dallas, where she was instrumental in driving operational excellence and enhancing visitor experiences. Her career also includes leadership roles at the Fort Worth Convention Center, the MassMutual Center in Springfield, MA, and the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville, KY, where she oversaw the reopening of the newly renovated convention center.

Stacey earned her certified venue executive (CVE) designation in 2022, highlighting her steadfast commitment to professional excellence. She currently serves as the second vice chair of the International Association of Venue Managers (IAVM) and will assume the chair position in 2026, becoming the third representative from GWCCA to hold this prestigious industry role. Through her dedication to volunteerism, mentorship, and advancing the industry, Stacey continues to make a significant and enduring impact.

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About Georgia World Congress Center Authority

Georgia World Congress Center Authority's (GWCCA) campus, a key driver for Georgia's economy, is the largest combined convention, sports, and entertainment destination in North America. Established in 1971, the GWCCA campus includes Georgia World Congress Center, Centennial Olympic Park, Mercedes-Benz Stadium, and Signia by Hilton Atlanta. To learn more about the No. 1 convention, sports, and entertainment destination in the world, visit <u>www.gwcca.org</u> or follow GWCCA on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Twitter</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.