



## **NEWS**

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### **The National Conference Center Receives Reader's Choice Award by Conventions South Magazine Magazine also spotlights three of The National's employees**

**LEESBURG, Va., Feb. 11, 2016**— Conventions South, an industry trade magazine for meeting, event and conference planners recently gave The National Conference Center a Reader's Choice Award in the category of "New & Renovated Award Winners, Virginia."

"We are very proud to have received this recognition," stated Geoff Lawson, vice president and general manager of The National Conference Center. "Our team has invested a lot of energy and time into making The National and West Belmont Place the best venue for meetings and conferences."

Over the past 15 months, The National, under new ownership, has implemented highly effective and successful changes throughout the 1,000,000 square foot venue with millions of dollars in renovations, and the development of a highly efficient sales and customer service team that has excelled in bringing some of the top companies in the nation to this unique training and meeting facility. In addition to marked additions and improvements across the 65-acre campus, The National also built a team challenge course featuring high and low rope elements and climbing wall and partnered with one of the top leadership development organizations in the country to help facilitate leadership development and team building programs. The result has been rave reviews across the board.

"Changes at The National and West Belmont Place have helped return the property to the forefront of the meetings and training industry," added Lawson.

Conventions South also spotlighted three industry leaders who work at The National: Rachael Rutherford, catering sales manager for West Belmont Place Event Center; Susanna Burke, conference planning manager; and Janice Fullerton, senior conference planning manager. Rutherford has five years of experience at The National since accepting a full-time position after being on the property as an intern. Burke is a veteran of the meeting planning industry with more than 27 years of experience at The National; and Fullerton has more than 20 years of experience with The National. The three were the only industry leaders chosen in Virginia.

#### **More about The National Conference Center**

*Located in Northern Virginia 12 miles from Dulles International Airport and 35 miles from Washington, D.C., The National Conference Center is one of the largest and most comprehensive conference centers in the nation. With 917 guest rooms and over 265,000 square feet of meeting and group function space, including the West Belmont Place catering complex with its 16,552 square foot ballroom, The National has become the nation's headquarters for productive meetings and West Belmont Place the hub for Loudoun County and surrounding area social functions. West Belmont Place was named 2013 Best Venue by the International Special Events Society. The National Conference Center is also on the GSA schedule. The National is owned by NCC PS Enterprises LLC, a venture between PCCP, LLC and Stoneleigh Capital, LLC., which retained LaKota Hotels & Resorts to oversee all aspects of the day-to-day operations. For information call 800-640-2684 or visit [www.conferencecenter.com](http://www.conferencecenter.com).*

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