



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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JAN GRUEN OF NEWMAYER & DILLION LLP RECEIVES ‘CHAIRMAN’S AWARD’ FROM HBANC

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. — Jan A. Gruen, managing partner of the Walnut Creek office of Newmeyer & Dillion LLP, was honored with the prestigious 2007 Chairman’s Award before more than 300 attendees at the recent Installation Gala of the Home Builders Association of Northern California (HBANC).

The coveted award was bestowed in appreciation of Gruen’s dedicated service to HBANC and the construction industry during the year 2007. It is given at the Chairman’s discretion to recognize outstanding volunteer efforts by an association member during the year. The group is a professional, non-profit trade association comprised of 1,000 home builders, trade contractors, suppliers and industry professionals in the Bay Area.

In recognizing Gruen, outgoing Chairman Steve Johnson of St. James Properties cited her service to the association, including her service as 2007 president of its Women’s Council. In that position, she was responsible for a number of successes, including spearheading a dramatic increase in the Council’s efforts to help homeless women and children in HomeAid shelters, and the establishment of a legacy in the form of a \$50,000 educational endowment to provide scholarships to those seeking new or different home-building careers.

“I am honored and proud to serve the building industry and our communities,” said Gruen. “This award was completely unexpected and truly appreciated.”

Gruen has been a board member on the Women’s Council for eight years and was a member of the HBANC regional board in 2007. She has accepted a position on the 2008 board of HomeAid, the nonprofit arm of the building industry that builds shelters for transitionally homeless women and children. She also served on the CBIA Women’s Council board for the last four years and will continue her involvement at the state level.

Jan has been honored over the last few years with numerous other honors recognizing her service to the HBA and Women’s Council.

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On the professional side, Gruen is a prominent real estate attorney with business and real estate-law firm Newmeyer & Dillion, which is headquartered in Newport Beach. She was recognized among her professional peers in the highly coveted list of 2007 "Top 50 Women Super Lawyers" for Northern California, and was selected by the East Bay Business Times in 2006 as one of 14 "Outstanding East Bay Attorneys."

Now in its 23rd year, Newmeyer & Dillion LLP offers statewide legal services from offices in Walnut Creek and Newport Beach, with more than 50 lawyers handling a diverse scope of business, real estate and financial matters. For additional information, contact Managing Partner Jan Gruen at (925) 988-3200, or visit www.ndlf.com.

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