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## **MacNair Travel's Vacation Division Starts 2005 on High Notes** *Achieves Recruiting Success and Receives Multiple Honors & Recognitions for Growth and Quality*

ALEXANDRIA, VA—January 21, 2005 - With \$34M in annual sales, MacNair Travel Management (an American Express Representative Network Affiliate) is best known as one of the Washington, DC, area's outstanding corporate (and political) travel management firms, but the company has made strong moves recently to showcase and highlight its vacation department. Those efforts have resulted in increased visibility, recruiting success, industry awards, and media recognition.

MacNair Travel's President/CEO, Michael MacNair, called these past few months, "a coming out party for our fine vacations division." He was quick to point out that, "MacNair Travel has always prided itself on a superb vacations department dedicated to creating distinctive and memorable journeys for a discerning clientele. We call these Dream Trips," he added, "and they are meant to create a lifetime's worth of memories at unparalleled value."

In just the past few months, MacNair has achieved many of its long standing goals by:

### **I. Recruiting Two of the Areas Best Known Vacation Travel Experts.**

**Mr. Tharwat Abouraya** joined the senior management team at MacNair as the Director of the Vacation Division. In his 25+ years in the industry, Mr. Abouraya has owned and operated a successful Washington area travel firm, managed several regional offices for American Express and, most recently, served as the East Coast Regional Director for AMEX's Consumer (vacation) Sales Division. A graduate of the University of Alexandria (Egypt), he brings an extensive wealth of knowledge and history of achievement to MacNair.

**Ms. Mindy Milliron** previously served as a Vacation Specialist for Carroll Travel on Capitol Hill where she specialized in providing VIP travel services to high-profile corporate clients, political figures, and celebrities. She is a certified travel specialist for Bermuda and Princess Cruises and an active member of the Caribbean Travel Organization, an international development agency promoting travel to the Caribbean. She earned a degree in travel in 1996 from Cal Simmons Travel School and has local university ties with a Bachelors Degree and an MBA from George Washington University.

### **II. Recognition for Excellence by Media and Winner of Supplier Awards**

**Travel + Leisure's National Super-Agent Program.** Ms. Trish Chandler and Ms. Kathy Cole, Senior Dream Trip Designers at MacNair were featured in the September, 2004, issue in T+L's annual feature

titled “125 Top Travel Super-Agents.” Chandler was recognized for her expertise in Canadian travel and Cole was honored for her expertise in designing family vacations.

**Washingtonian Magazine’s “Best of Washington.”** Trish Chandler was also recognized in the December issue of *Washingtonian* magazine. She was selected by a handful of *Washingtonian* staff to be featured in the “Best of Washington” article. Her extensive knowledge and experience in North American vacation travel earned her the opportunity to highlight “Great New Year’s Getaways” for the magazine, offering recommendations for “festive and luxurious getaways.” Chandler is a certified travel specialist for the United States, Canada, Hawaii, and England.

**Washington Consumers’ CHECKBOOK - Top Rating for Quality.** MacNair Travel is honored in the current newsstand issue (Winter/Spring 2005) of *Washington Consumers’ CHECKBOOK* with *The Checkbook’s Top Rating For Quality*, resulting from excellent ratings on performance, timeliness, and cost savings.

**“Best of the Best.”** Many suppliers of tours and cruises recognize travel firms annually for the quality and quantity of sales of their products and services. In 2004, MacNair Travel was named “Best of the Best” by Sandals Vacations and American Express Vacations for surpassing standards of excellence in both categories.

**Discover MacNair Travel Management/American Express:**

Since 1989, MacNair Travel Management - a privately owned American Express Travel Services Representative – has taken a proactive consulting approach to the management of travel for individuals, organizations of all types and sizes, national presidential campaigns, and VIPs from around the globe. MacNair’s Vacations Division's mission is to generate a portfolio of unforgettable escapes for customers. These escapes are Dream Trips that are anything but ordinary vacations. MacNair Travel is an award-winning travel firm widely recognized for its technology innovations, customer service, team excellence and expertise. Visit [www.macnairtravel.com](http://www.macnairtravel.com) for more information.

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