



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**EDMUND “BUSTER” CIVEROLO WINS 2009 AMERICAN HOTEL & LODGING ASSOCIATION STARS OF THE INDUSTRY AWARD**

**WAIKIKI, OAHU – June 24, 2009** – Edmund “Buster” Civerolo, bell help for the 1,310-room Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort & Spa ([www.marriottwaikiki.com](http://www.marriottwaikiki.com)), was honored with the 2009 Outstanding Lodging Employee of the Year (large property) Stars of the Industry Award by the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AH&LA). Civerolo received the award during the annual Stars of the Industry luncheon Wednesday during the AH&LA Summer Summit in Chicago, Illinois.

Civerolo won the award based on his positive demeanor, team spirit, personal attention given to each guest, and commitment to giving back to the community. Earlier, he received the 2009 Na Po‘e Pa‘ahana (the hardworking people) award and was named Outstanding Lodging Employee of the Year by the Hawaii Hotel & Lodging Association (HHLA).

“Buster’s 30 years of bell service here at our resort can at the very least be summed up by this award,” said Chris Tatum, general manager of Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort & Spa. “From his signature ‘ALOOOOOHA!’ to guests and associates throughout the day, to going above and beyond in personalizing each guest’s stay, Buster is the model associate of our hospitality industry. His daily enthusiasm is genuine and infectious, and we’re delighted to see him achieve this national recognition.”

Deemed as Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort & Spa’s “Ambassador of Aloha,” Civerolo’s megawatt smile and innate compassion for others resonate throughout the resort. And even in his free time, he can be found surfing the renowned Waikiki Beach or running the annual Honolulu Marathon with return guests and fellow associates, as well as volunteering at any of the resort’s *Spirit to Serve* community events. Civerolo joined the resort in 1978 when it was the Hawaiian Regent and later became Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort & Spa in 2000.

The large property category for Outstanding Lodging Employee of the Year is for hotels with more than 300 rooms. This annual award is one of four categories recognizing outstanding hospitality professionals throughout the country. Stars of the Industry awards also honor standout hotel property programs in six categories. The Stars of the Industry awards have been designated annually to AH&LA members for more than 40 years. This year’s judges are Stefani C. O’Connor, executive editor of *Hotel Business* magazine; Stephanie Ricca, editor in chief of *Hotel & Motel Management* magazine; and Ed Watkins, editor of *Lodging Hospitality* magazine.

For more information on the AH&LA Stars of the Industry program, along with a complete list of 2009 winners, please visit [www.ahla.com/stars](http://www.ahla.com/stars).

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WAIKIKI BEACH MARRIOTT RESORT & SPA fronts the best stretch of Waikiki Beach. Conveniently located in the heart of Waikiki, the hotel offers 1,310 refurbished guest rooms and suites with private lanai providing spectacular views of world-famous Diamond Head and Waikiki Beach. Other amenities include Kuhio Beach Grill, featuring the best in Pacific Rim cuisine; Sansei Seafood Restaurant & Sushi Bar and d.k Steak House; Arancino di Mare Italian Restaurant; contemporary sushi bar; Moana Terrace, offering live Hawaiian entertainment nightly; Seattle's Best Coffee; Paul Brown's Spa Olakino \* Salon; Faith Riding Company Surf School; two freshwater, heated swimming pools; 10-person whirlpool; 24-hour fitness facility; business center with 24-hour Internet access; high-speed and wireless Internet access throughout the resort's guest rooms and public spaces; shops and boutiques; and Hawaiian cultural activities. For more information, visit [www.marriottwaikiki.com](http://www.marriottwaikiki.com).

*Editor's Note: JPG images available upon request.*

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