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**Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce Announces City National Bank Better Beach Awards Finalists**

*Special Recognitions to be Awarded to Jay Parker, Wayne Pathman, FIU and Surprise Industry Leader*

**Miami Beach, FL (March 21, 2016)** The Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) officially announced the 33 finalists for its 4<sup>th</sup> Annual City National Bank Better Beach Awards. A winner in each of the 10 categories will be awarded at the event, which honors influential, trendsetting leaders and their buildings and projects in the local real estate industry. A panel of judges evaluated over 100 award submissions over a month long process and ultimately declared the finalist and winners.

The City National Bank Better Beach Awards ceremony will take place on April 1<sup>st</sup> from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm at the Ritz-Carlton South Beach and is expected to have over 300 professionals in attendance. Will Manso, WPLG Local 10 sports director and lead sports anchor, as well as reporter and Miami Heat studio host for road broadcasts on Sun Sports in Miami, Florida will serve as the Master of Ceremonies. The event sponsorships include Douglas Elliman as the Presenting Sponsor and PARAMOUNT Miami Worldcenter as a Gallery Sponsor.

"I'd like to congratulate our City National Bank Better Beach Awards' finalists," said event committee chair and Platinum Properties International Broker Melissa Rubin. "These finalists represent the true essence of Miami Beach and everything it has to offer."

"The Real Estate industry is essential to the Miami Beach economy and it's exciting to honor individuals and firms dedicated to innovation and growth within our community," said Jorge Gonzalez, President and CEO of City National Bank. "City National Bank congratulates all the nominees and wishes them continued success in making Miami Beach one of the best destinations for business around."

**The finalists for the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual City National Bank Better Beach Awards are:**

1. **Historic Preservation of a Commercial Property Award**
  - **Finalist: Faena Hotel, Thompson Miami Beach and the Miami Beach Women's Club**
2. **Historic Preservation with Adaptive Re-Use Award**
  - **Finalists: Aloft Hotel and Radio Bar**
3. **Innovative Architecture – Commercial Property Award**
  - **Finalists: DIRT and South Pointe Pier**

4. **Innovative Architecture – Residential Property Award**
  - Finalists: K Residence, Glass and Ritz Carlton Residences
5. **Innovative Designer – Property Greater than 10,000 Sq. Feet Award**
  - Finalists: 3900 Alton Road, Aloft Hotel and Anatomy at 1220
6. **Innovative Designer – Property Less than 10,000 Sq. Feet Award**
  - Finalists: 1510 Bay Drive and DIRT
7. **Better Beach Citizen Award**
  - Finalists: Matis Cohen (Kahunah Properties), David Martin (Terra Group) and Linda Grosz (EWM)
8. **Most Innovative Method of Marketing Award - Real Estate Agent**
  - Finalists: Chad Carroll (Douglas Elliman), Madeleine Romanello (One Sotheby's International Realty) and Melissa Rubin (Platinum Properties International)
9. **Most Innovative Method of Marketing Award - Real Estate Team**
  - Finalists: The Haller Group (Dezer Platinum Realty), The Kurz Team (Douglas Elliman) and The Bill and Bryan Team (Douglas Elliman)
10. **Rising Stars**
  - Joyce Parra (Cervera), Alyssa Morgan (Coldwell), David Carson (Compass), Cynthia King (Douglas Elliman), Justin Rubin (Douglas Elliman), Sari Libbin (Douglas Elliman), Carlos LaRocca (ISG) and Stephan Fortier (ISG)

**Special Recognitions to Include:**

- **Innovative Leader Award** – Jay Parker, CEO of Douglas Elliman's Florida Brokerage, will receive a special award for his thought-provoking leadership within the real estate industry.
- **Forward Thinking Award** – Wayne Pathman, Chair Elect for the Chamber and Chairman of the City of Miami Sea Level Rise Committee, will receive the individual award for his dedication and vision in addressing sea level rise issues in Florida. Pathman will also present FIU's Journalism Department with an award for its commitment to public awareness of the issue. The award will be presented to Julia Pinto, Associate Professor & Interim Executive Director of FIU's Journalism Department, on behalf of the organization.
- **Global Game Changer Award** – This surprise award will be presented to an influential member of the Miami Beach Real Estate Profession.

**About Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce**

The Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce was formed in 1921 to promote the economic well-being of Miami Beach's citizens, to improve the quality of life for the entire community, and to communicate the view of the business community on major issues of public policy.

**About City National Bank of Florida**

Headquartered in Miami, City National Bank (CNB) is the financial institution to which Floridians have turned for more than 65 years. With more than \$6 billion in assets, CNB is one of the largest financial institutions based in the state. In September of 2015, Banco de Credito e Inversiones completed the acquisition of CNB, representing the largest single investment ever by a Chilean company in the United States. The bank remains a South Florida-based community bank with local decision making. City National Bank is one of the most liquid and best capitalized banks in Florida and is rated 5 stars "Superior" by BauerFinancial. CNB

was voted Best Community Bank, Best Business Bank, Best Bank for Commercial Real Estate, Best Bank for Jumbo Loans and Best Private Bank by the readers of the Daily Business Review for the past four years. The South Florida Business Journal named it Business of the Year in 2013 and Community Bank of the Year in 2013 and 2011. CNB offers a diversified portfolio of financial products and services at 26 convenient banking centers from Miami-Dade County to the greater Orlando area.