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Contacts: Phillip Evans

(404) 522-5260

phillip.evans@tedturner.com

Elena Cizmaric (404) 878-5567

elena.cizmaric@tedturner.com

Ted Turner Purchases Historic Sierra Grande Lodge and Spa

New venture a first for CNN founder and philanthropist in Truth or Consequences, NM

Truth or Consequences, NM — April 4, 2013 — Renowned businessman, conservationist and philanthropist Ted Turner is broadening his presence in the hospitality industry. Turner purchased the historic <u>Sierra Grande Lodge and Spa</u> in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, via a wholly-owned entity. The Sierra Grande is well known for its unparalleled combination of luxurious accommodations, rustic charm and relaxing spa and mineral baths. The Lodge is also a launching point for exploring the area's exciting recreational, eco-tourism and artistic opportunities including ancient hot springs, hunting and fishing, hiking, boating, bird watching, historic ghost towns, fine art galleries and world class golf.

Known for his vision and entrepreneurial acumen, Turner believes the Sierra Grande has unique business potential. "I visited the Sierra Grande last summer with my family and fell in love with it," Turner says, "It has a rich history and rustic charm that is hard to find these days." Turner also wanted to take advantage of the strategic location of the Lodge, close to his <u>Ladder Ranch</u> and <u>Armendaris Ranch</u>, encompassing 800 square miles. "Sierra Grande is only a short distance away from two of my <u>ranches</u> where we're expanding eco-tourism opportunities for guests, and it's also very close to the Spaceport my friend Richard Branson is developing. This is a special part of the country, and we've been involved in local communities for the past 20 years."

This is not Turner's first foray into the hospitality industry. In addition to the Sierra Grande, Turner owns the <u>Vermejo Park Ranch</u> guest lodge in northern New Mexico and is co-founder of the <u>Ted's Montana Grill</u> restaurant chain, operating 44 restaurants nationwide.

For more information about the Lodge, please visit the Lodge's website at www.sierragrandelodge.com

For more information about Ted Turner and Turner ranches, please visit www.tedturner.com