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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **FOUR SMI HOTEL GROUP PROPERTIES EARN 2016 TRIPADVISOR CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE**

**RICHMOND, VIRGINIA**— May 26, 2016 – **SMI Hotel Group** today announced that four of the properties it manages have been awarded a TripAdvisor® Certificate of Excellence. Now in its sixth year, the achievement celebrates hospitality businesses that have earned great traveler reviews on TripAdvisor over the past year. Certificate of Excellence recipients include accommodations, eateries and attractions located all over the world that have continually delivered a quality customer experience.

“We are extremely proud of this achievement, as it directly reflects the experiences of our guests while staying in these hotels,” said Robert Reed, Vice President of SMI Hotel Group. “Our team members at the Commonwealth Park Suites Hotel, Crowne Plaza Richmond Downtown, Four Points by Sheraton Richmond Airport, and Holiday Inn Tyler-South Broadway, work tirelessly to exceed guest expectations, and this award speaks to their success.”

“With the Certificate of Excellence, TripAdvisor honors hospitality businesses that have consistently received strong praise and ratings from travelers,” said Heather Leisman, Vice President of Industry Marketing, TripAdvisor. “This recognition helps travelers identify and book properties that regularly deliver great service. TripAdvisor is proud to play this integral role in helping travelers feel more confident in their booking decisions.”

The Certificate of Excellence accounts for the quality, quantity and recency of reviews submitted by travelers on TripAdvisor over a 12-month period. To qualify, a business must maintain an overall TripAdvisor bubble rating of at least four out of five, have a minimum number of reviews and must have been listed on TripAdvisor for at least 12 months.

### **About SMI Hotel Group**

Founded in 1997, Richmond, VA based SMI Hotel Group is an owner and operator of award-winning upscale, full-service hotels in Virginia and Texas. Privately owned, the company strives to deliver memorable hospitality experiences that exceed the expectations of every guest that stays, meets or dines in their properties.

### **About TripAdvisor**

TripAdvisor® is the world’s largest travel site\*\*, enabling travelers to plan and book the perfect trip. TripAdvisor offers advice from millions of travelers and a wide variety of travel choices and planning features with seamless links to booking tools that check hundreds of websites to find the best hotel prices. TripAdvisor branded sites make up the largest travel community in the world, reaching 340 million unique monthly visitors\*\*\*, and 350 million reviews and opinions



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covering 6.5 million accommodations, restaurants and attractions. The sites operate in 48 markets worldwide.

TripAdvisor, Inc. (NASDAQ:TRIP), through its subsidiaries, manages and operates websites under 24 other travel media brands: [www.airfarewatchdog.com](http://www.airfarewatchdog.com), [www.bookingbuddy.com](http://www.bookingbuddy.com), [www.cruisecritic.com](http://www.cruisecritic.com), [www.everytrail.com](http://www.everytrail.com), [www.familyvacationcritic.com](http://www.familyvacationcritic.com), [www.flipkey.com](http://www.flipkey.com), [www.thefork.com](http://www.thefork.com) (including [www.lafourchette.com](http://www.lafourchette.com), [www.eltenedor.com](http://www.eltenedor.com), [www.iens.nl](http://www.iens.nl), [www.besttables.com](http://www.besttables.com) and [www.dimmi.com.au](http://www.dimmi.com.au)), [www.gateguru.com](http://www.gateguru.com), [www.holidaylettings.co.uk](http://www.holidaylettings.co.uk), [www.holidaywatchdog.com](http://www.holidaywatchdog.com), [www.housetrip.com](http://www.housetrip.com), [www.independenttraveler.com](http://www.independenttraveler.com), [www.jetsetter.com](http://www.jetsetter.com), [www.niumba.com](http://www.niumba.com), [www.onetime.com](http://www.onetime.com), [www.oyster.com](http://www.oyster.com), [www.seatguru.com](http://www.seatguru.com), [www.smartertravel.com](http://www.smartertravel.com), [www.tingo.com](http://www.tingo.com), [www.travelpod.com](http://www.travelpod.com), [www.tripbod.com](http://www.tripbod.com), [www.vacationhomerentals.com](http://www.vacationhomerentals.com), [www.viator.com](http://www.viator.com), and [www.virtualtourist.com](http://www.virtualtourist.com).

\*\*Source: comScore Media Metrix for TripAdvisor Sites, worldwide, February 2016

\*\*\*Source: TripAdvisor log files, Q1 2016

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