

May 7, 2014

Ben Blackwell
Hampton Inn & Suites Baton Rouge Downtown
462 Lafayette Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70801

Dear Ben,

Congratulations are in order as your employee Linda Jones is being honored with a 2014 Southern Hospitality Recognition of Excellence (SHORE) Award by *ConventionSouth* magazine, and has taken the top spot as the Editors' Overall Honoree.

In correlation with U.S. Travel Association's National Travel and Tourism Week (#NTTW14), *ConventionSouth* is presenting a front-line hospitality worker(s) from 16 states in the South with a SHORE award for their dedication to excellence and professionalism in the meetings and hospitality industries.

To be honored with this recognition, candidates must represent a destination or meeting site located within the South. They must perform their job with dedication and pride; and provide visitors, guests, meeting planners and meeting attendees with a welcoming, helpful and genuine spirit that goes above-and-beyond expectations. Furthermore, as a representative of Southern Travel and Tourism as a whole, they must be an ambassador for their destination and state; and display the patient temperament and joyous attitude known across the globe as Southern Hospitality.

Linda clearly represents all that this award is meant to honor. In the words of her nominator Ben Blackwell, "She is the personification of Southern Hospitality as she moves around the tables checking on each and every guest and ensuring that they have everything that they need as well as a good morning and how was their stay."

Along with the digital certificate provided to you today, you will receive a mailed framed certificate for her in a few days as well as a gift for being the overall honoree. She will also receive a spotlight in the August issue of *ConventionSouth*. Along with being the 2014/2015 Guide to Planning Meetings and Events in the South, this "SoHo Issue" features Southern Hospitality insights from charming destinations for events to Southern cuisine ideas—all the unique reasons to host meetings within the South. The SHORE Wall of Fame can also be found online at www.ConventionSouth.com/custom/file/SHOREWallOfFame.pdf

As you share this honor with her, please let her know that the staff members of *ConventionSouth* are humbled and moved by her dedicated service to the meetings and hospitality industries; and we wished we were there to personally present her with this award certificate. Please pass on a big "Southern hug" from us!

Congratulations and Thank You,

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