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## The Westin New York at Times Square Names Two Key Executives: Director of Sales Marcus Ong Director of Catering & Event Management Craig Bertz

## The Pair Brings a Winning Mix of New York & Luxury Hospitality Expertise to the Table with 30-Plus Years of Experience Collectively

New York, NY – June 1, 2017 – The Westin New York at Times Square has named two key players to its executive team with the appointments of **Marcus Ong**, director of sales, and **Craig Bertz**, director of catering and event management. The duo brings extensive hospitality experience to the 873-room luxury hotel in the heart of one of the most famed parts of Manhattan, with both New York and luxury-specific roles to their credit.

**Director of Sales Marcus Ong**: Most recently, Ong was a senior sales manager at the New York Marriott Marquis. Responsible for large groups spanning a number of territories and business segments, Ong's strategic approach and long-term growth initiatives proved to be quite successful. For the past two consecutive years he not only reached, but exceed, the room revenue goals set; once by an impressive 126%. Ong has held a number of positions in his 17 years with Marriott, including senior sales manager in charge of groups for The Ritz-Carlton New York, Battery Park. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Administration from Boston University.

**Director of Catering and Event Management Craig Bertz**: Hailing from the historic and worldrenowned Waldorf Astoria New York, Bertz brings a tremendous understanding of the luxury events market. Having held a number of positions at the hotel, most recently Bertz was the director of events, responsible for the entire department and over \$70 million in annual revenue. He oversaw a team of 12 and not only upheld them to the highest levels of guest satisfaction, but developed a team member satisfaction plan built around associate feedback that was rooted in improving communication. After a successful seven-year run, Bertz saw the team through the closing phase of the hotel before joining The Westin New York at Times Square. Bertz began his hospitality career 20 years ago in Florida with Walt Disney Co. and then moved to the Boca Raton Resort & Club as a convention services manager. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Elizabethtown College.

"They say top notch talent chooses top rated hotels. We are honored to have two esteemed industry professionals such as Marcus and Craig choose to join our team," said General Manager Sean Verney. "We take their acceptance of our offer as an extreme compliment and know they will be an instrumental part of our continued success."

For more information on The Westin New York at Times Square, please visit <u>www.westinny.com</u>.

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\*\*Photos available in hi-res upon request\*\*



**Director of Sales Marcus Ong** 



Director of Catering and Event Management Craig Bertz

## About The Westin New York at Times Square

A distinguished AAA Four Diamond ranked hotel, The Westin New York at Times Square stands at the crossroads of the world and is located at 270 W. 43<sup>rd</sup> Street amid the brilliance of Broadway. The hotel is within walking distance to over 40 theatres and many famous New York City attractions. All 873 <u>Westin New York at Times Square hotel rooms</u> and suites feature the luxurious Westin Heavenly Bed® and Heavenly Bath<sup>sm</sup>, and offer incredible views of the city skyline and the Hudson River. The hotel features Foundry Kitchen & Bar, and is interconnected to a 200,000 square-foot entertainment and retail complex featuring movie theaters, restaurants, and shopping. The Westin New York at Times Square was named one of America's Top 10 Healthiest Hotels by Health magazine and is a certified GOLD member of the Green Hotels Association.