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BSCAI Announces 2009 Annual Convention & Trade Show Keynote Speakers

CHICAGO – The Building Service Contractors Association International (BSCAI) is pleased to announce two prestigious keynote speakers, former White House assistant chef, Mary Crane, Esq. and former NASA engineer and mission specialist, Colonel Mike Mullane will address attendees at the 2009 BSCAI Annual Convention & Trade Show. The association returns to Chicago, March 6-9, 2009, Hyatt Regency Chicago, Chicago, Ill., where the convention experienced record-breaking attendance in 2007.

Crane will open the convention with her presentation, *Bridging the Generation Gap*, which reviews the research regarding generational cohorts and guides attendees in examining key events and people that influenced each generation and the impact these events had on values, attitudes and outlooks.

Mullane's session, *Countdown To Teamwork*, will explain why teams perform better when practicing certain fundamentals, including: guarding against a normalization of deviance, responsibility, trust and courageous self and team leadership.

Crane practiced law and lobbied in Washington D.C. for nearly 10 years and in the early 1990s, she decided to pursue a career in food and wine, spending two years at the prestigious Culinary Institute of America. After earning a certification as a sommelier from the Court of Master Sommeliers London, she began work as an assistant chef at the White House. There she realized her colleagues could benefit from her culinary knowledge and believe that providing lawyers with a baseline of knowledge of food and wine would allow them to focus on business rather than on confusing menu items.

The Rules of Engagement, a program Crane began after she left the White House, provides participants with the rules needed to successfully work receptions and navigate the formal dining setting. Her clients now include many Fortune 500 companies and more than 50 percent of the AmLaw100. She is a frequent speaker at national conferences and has appeared on *60 Minutes*, *Fox Business News* and *ABC Radio*. Crane has also been quoted extensively in a variety of print and electronic media, including *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes.com*, *Fortune.com*, and *CNN.com*

After Mullane's graduation from West Point in 1967 he was commissioned in the United States Air Force. As a Weapon Systems Operator aboard RF-4C Phantom aircraft, he completed more than 130 combat missions in Vietnam. Mullane has completed three space missions and logged more than 350 hours in space aboard the Shuttles Discovery and Atlantis before retiring from NASA and the Air Force in 1990. Mullane was inducted into the International Space Hall of Fame and is the recipient of many awards, including the Air Force Distinguished Flying Cross, Legion of Merit and the NASA Space Flight Medal.

Since his retirement from NASA, Mullane has written the award-winning children's book, *Liftoff! An Astronaut's Dream*, and a popular space fact book, *Do Your Ears Pop In Space?* He has also served as a host for *Inside Space*, a nationally-syndicated cable television program of the USA Network.



The #1 choice for successful building service contractors

Building Service Contractors Association International

The BSCAI Annual Convention & Trade Show also features more than 30 education sessions, focusing on bidding & estimating, marketing, budgeting, operations and more, and multiple opportunities for building service contract professionals to network and grow their professional contacts.

Registration for the 2009 BSCAI Annual Convention & Trade Show opens early and will be available in September.

For more information on BSCAI and the 2009 BSCAI Annual Convention & Trade Show, visit www.BSCAI.org.

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About BSCAI

Founded in 1965, BSCAI has become the trade association of the building service industry, representing a worldwide network of more than 2,000 member companies from across the United States and 30 countries worldwide who provide cleaning, facility maintenance, security and other related services to building owners and managers. The association provides educational programs, certification, publications, video training programs, seminars, and networking opportunities, all developed specifically for leaders in the building service contracting industry.