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**The National Candle Association Announces 2020 Directors and Officers,
Recognizes Industry Leader, and Focuses on Priorities for Coming Year**

WASHINGTON, DC, September 24, 2020 --- Consumer candle safety and fair trade policies are top priorities for the National Candle Association (NCA), which hosted its 2020 NCA Virtual Annual Business Meeting on September 17, 2020. Over 100 NCA members gathered for the association's annual business meeting.

Among the orders of business at the meeting was the election of the following directors and officers for the 2020-2021 fiscal year:

- Chris Rakyta of [Luminex Home Decor & Fragrance Company](#) was elected NCA President;
- Brad Root of [Root Candles](#) will serve as Vice President/President Elect;
- Tom Donnelly of [Alene Candles](#) will serve as Vice President;
- Steve Horenziak of [The Procter & Gamble Co.](#) will assume the role of Treasurer;
- Kathy LaVanier of [Renegade Candles](#) will serve as Immediate Past President.

NCA also seized the occasion of the virtual assembly to pay tribute to those whose work has made a significant contribution to the industry or community. NCA's Hall of Fame Award was bestowed upon one deserving industry leader in recognition of the lasting impact of their professional dedication:

Rob Harrington, Director of Regulatory Affairs at [Arylessence, Inc.](#)

"I have been privileged to know our honoree for at least 20 years – for me, he has been a customer, a colleague, and a competitor. Through the years, we have served together on a number of industry committees, both in and out of the NCA, and we continue to do so. Through it all, he has always been a friend and always someone I know I can count on. Many times, I've called this person at the 11th hour and said "I need a speaker" – he would always step up and fill the slot," said Eileen Hedrick, NCA Conference Committee Chair.

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the NCA conference scheduled to be held in late April in Charleston, South Carolina, was cancelled, and the annual business meeting was held as a virtual meeting. Association priorities for the coming year include its ongoing commitment to candle safety and consumer education about safe candle use, and sustaining fair trade policies to maintain a balanced and competitive market in the US for American candle companies.

The National Candle Association (NCA) is the trade association representing U.S. candle manufacturers and their suppliers. It is widely recognized as the leading technical authority on candle manufacturing, science and safety. For additional information, visit www.candles.org.

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