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## PRESS RELEASE

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## Balboa Travel Management Strengthens its Bench

*San Diego, CA - January 4, 2012* - Seasoned travel management executive Stephen D. Thomas-Schulere has joined San Diego-based Balboa Travel Management as Senior Vice President Strategic Solutions. Reporting directly to Executive Vice President for Strategic Initiatives, John Cruse, Thomas-Schulere will assume responsibility for all areas of operations that impinge on achieving the strategic objectives established with clients and for enhancing Balboa's integrated application of resources to those objectives.

"We've known Stephen for many years since the time he was an executive at Stevens Travel Management of New York," said CEO Denise Jackson in making the announcement. "Working together in an affiliate program to which both Stevens Travel and Balboa formerly belonged, we gained a real appreciation for his many skills and talents. His capabilities will be very valuable as we continue our solid growth."



Stephen D. Thomas-Schulere

For his role at Balboa, he comes well prepared, having most recently been Senior Vice President of Client Relations and Operations at Travel Leaders Corporate with responsibilities that ranged from strategic planning and quality improvement, to financial performance and initiatives to enhance operational efficiencies.

In 2011 he achieved the Global Business Travel Association (GBTA) designation of CTE (Corporate Travel Expert).

Prior to joining Travel Leaders, he was President of New York-based Stevens Travel Group, acquired by Travel Leaders in 2008. Thomas-Schulere spent over 20 years at Stevens, joining as a corporate agent in 1982 and being promoted through the ranks to positions of ever increasing responsibility. He was named President in 2006 with overall responsibility for the company's direction and operations.

His knowledge and reputation in the industry resulted in him being recruited by New York University in 1995 by the Dean of Continuing Education, Ruthie Davis, to develop and teach their curriculum in "Managing Corporate Travel," which he did for a number of years.

### **About Balboa Travel Management**

*Established in 1969, Balboa Travel Management, a BCD Travel Affiliate, is focused on aiding its corporate clients with cost-effective service systems that provide the greatest support and responsiveness for travelers while minimizing cost. Balboa Travel Management ranks in the top 1 percent nationwide and is a certified Women and Minority owned business (WMBE). Its services also include all aspect of meeting and incentive program planning, purchasing and on-site operation, as well as employee and executive vacation programs. Its stress on continuity and development is reflective of the fact that its founders continue as owners and serve on the company's board of directors.*

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