



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – November 21, 2016

SOLANO COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS' GENERAL MANAGER STEPHEN PIERCE WILL RESIGN IN JANUARY 2017

Board to confirm new General Manager appointment from within in December

Solano County, CA – Stephen Pierce, General Manager of the Solano County Fairgrounds, announced last week that he will be resigning due to family concerns, effective January 13, 2017. The announcement was made at the regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting of the Solano County Fair Association and was met with an outpouring of surprise and sadness from the Board and staff for the loss of Pierce's leadership at the Fairgrounds.

"We are saddened by the announcement but understand the importance of putting family first," stated Board President, Lee Williams. "The Fairgrounds is in a much better position today thanks to Stephen's leadership. Most importantly he has cultivated a team that is more entrepreneurial and focused on making the Fair a truly spectacular event that showcases the county's rich agricultural heritage and the amazing talents of Solano County residents."

The Fair Association Board of Directors looks to continue the success of the current management and employee team by ratifying a successor for Pierce from within the existing Fairgrounds staff at its next meeting in December. As with any transition, care and consideration is being made for the long-term future of the Fairgrounds while minimizing the impacts to daily operations. "By promoting from within and keeping our existing team intact, we anticipate a seamless transition for our customers and community partners as we move forward with a new General Manager," said Williams.

Pierce's decision to resign from his position was not made lightly. "While it saddens me greatly to walk away from the Fairgrounds at this exciting time, I do so with the confidence that the Association Board and the Fairgrounds' staff are poised to continue in the tradition of success that we've established together," said Pierce. "I could not have predicted my leaving the Fairgrounds after only two years, but the time has come that I must shift my priorities to the long-term needs of my family." Pierce became the General Manager of the Solano County Fairgrounds in December 2014, following a career with the County of Solano of nearly ten years. Prior to that, he served as the Marketing Director for the former 60th Services Squadron at Travis Air Force Base. He plans to relocate to Texas with his wife, Cathy, to be closer to his children and grandchildren.

Established in 1949 to produce the annual County Fair, the Solano County Fair Association is a non-profit agency that is governed by a Board of Directors. The Solano County Fair Association has been providing educational, cultural, artistic, commercial and recreational programs to the



residents of Solano County for over 65 years. The mission of the Solano County Fair Association is “to ensure a positive experience for the public by providing a year-round multi-purpose venue that showcases and celebrates the wide variety of resources and activities available to our diverse community.”

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