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HEADWAITER AT ADDISON EARNS COVETED CERTIFICATION
FROM COURT OF MASTER SOMMELIERS

Will Costello, Jesse Rodriguez Now Poised to Take Master Sommelier Exam

SAN DIEGO, Calif. (July 1, 2009) – Will Costello, headwaiter at the acclaimed Addison at The Grand Del Mar, has attained the level of advanced sommelier, a coveted certification from the American Chapter of the Court of Master Sommeliers, the premier international examining body for the wine industry.

According to Jesse Rodriguez, wine director at The Grand Del Mar, Costello is one of a handful advanced sommeliers in San Diego – and one of several hundred in the entire country – to attain this prestigious status. “Only 25 percent of those who take this advanced test pass,” he said. “This is a huge accomplishment for both Will and for The Grand Del Mar – and truly reflects his wealth of knowledge, dedication and hard work.”

The Court of Master Sommeliers, established to encourage improved standards of beverage knowledge and service in hotels and restaurants, describes the advanced sommelier status as “a necessary step in the progression toward the Master Sommelier Diploma.” A rigorous five-day experience, the advanced accreditation process includes lectures, tastings and interviews, followed by three days of written testing on theory, service and tasting.

Costello and Rodriguez are both now poised to take the exam to become master sommeliers – the court’s highest and most sought-after level – a certificate held by only 171 people throughout the world.

Prior to joining The Grand Del Mar where he helped open Addison in 2006, Costello worked for La Costa Resort & Spa’s acclaimed BlueFire Grill. A native of San Diego, Costello holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from California State University San Marcos.

Over the last three years, Costello has served as an ad hoc ambassador for The Grand Del Mar, carrying the resort flag to the top of such exotic sites as Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Cerro Aconcagua in Argentina and Mount Denali in Alaska.

About Addison and The Grand Del Mar

Garnering national acclaim for its outstanding cuisine, meticulous service and stellar wine list, Addison is the only restaurant in Southern California to earn both the Automobile of Southern California (AAA) Five Diamond and Mobil Travel Guide Five-Star rankings for 2009. Executive Chef William Bradley’s contemporary French cuisine is served in a plush Mediterranean-style setting influenced by the design aesthetic of the restaurant’s namesake, 1920s architect Addison Mizner. Dinner is served Tuesdays through Sundays from 5:30 to 10 p.m. For reservations, call 858-314-1900.

Situated amid a private reserve in Coastal North San Diego County, The Grand Del Mar recently opened its elaborate doors following more than two years of construction and meticulous planning. The beautifully appointed new resort features: 249 elegantly appointed guestrooms and suites; San Diego’s only Tom Fazio-designed championship golf course; two outdoor, lighted tennis courts; a 21,000-square-foot Renaissance-inspired spa; four swimming pools; regional dining; an enclave of residential Villas; and more than 20,000 square feet of indoor/outdoor meeting space. For more information, call 858-314-2000 or visit the Web site at [.TheGrandDelMar.com](http://TheGrandDelMar.com).

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