

For Immediate Release
Hunter
April 2, 2003

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ILLINOIS BUREAU OF TOURISM WELCOMES NEW DEPUTY DIRECTOR

CHICAGO – Jack Lavin, Acting Director of the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), today announced Jan Kostner as the new Deputy Director for the Illinois Bureau of Tourism.

“Jan’s nearly twenty years of experience in the public relations and public affairs industry will serve her well in promoting the vast number of tourist attractions all across Illinois,” Lavin said. “The tourism industry is a major economic engine for Illinois, with domestic travelers spending nearly \$21 billion in 2001, and I’m confident Jan will add bold and creative ideas and build upon our past successes in drawing record numbers of visitors to Illinois.”

Kostner most recently held the title of Senior Vice President at Jasculca/Terman and Associates, a Chicago based public relations firm, where she has worked for the past 19 years. She has worked on numerous projects for Target Stores, including the renovation of the Washington Monument, and the ground breaking for the WWII Memorial.

During her tenure with Jasculca/Terman she received five Golden Trumpet Awards from the Publicity Club of Chicago for her work on projects such as the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum Grand Opening; the Target Grand Prix; and, the Tourist Office of Spain.

“I’m very excited to have the opportunity to head up the State of Illinois’ tourism efforts,” Kostner said. “These are challenging times for our industry and I look forward to working with all of our local partners statewide in marketing our vast tourism resources and developing new and exciting programs and attractions to draw even more visitors to Illinois.”

Kostner is a Board Member of the Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau and sits on the board of the Chicago Sister Cities, China Committee. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from New England College.

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