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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BBQ Fest Seeks Local Backyard BBQ Teams

SoCal BBQ Bash and Expo open competition to non-professional BBQ Teams

Pomona, CA [March 1, 2017] Festival organizers announce the addition of an amateur division allowing backyard barbeque teams to participate in the SoCal BBQ Bash and Expo, May 20, 2017 at the Fairplex in Pomona. The announcement allows nonprofessional barbeque enthusiasts to compete in a sanctioned contest against their peers to win points and prizes. The contest is one of the first of its kind organized in California and sanctioned by the Kansas City Barbeque Society (KCBS), the largest and most prestigious organization in the world dedicated to barbeque. It is also sanctioned by the California Barbeque Association.

“We are very happy to offer a structured and organized competition for the everyday backyard barbeque cooker,” notes Derrick Turner, event organizer. “This is a way for amateur teams to have their barbeque evaluated, develop their skills, and have a great time. “It also creates competition experience that can be valuable should they decide to move up to the professional series,” he adds.

The event includes a professional series barbeque competition, live entertainment, workshops, cooking classes and demonstrations. Organizers anticipate nearly 75 professional and backyard BBQ teams throughout California, Arizona, Nevada and the West to converge at the Fairplex to vie for over \$10,000 in cash, prizes and most importantly, bragging rights. A Kids Korner features a kids cooking class and a barbeque competition for youth under 15 years.

The nations’ top celebrity barbeque teams, such as **Big Poppa's Smokers**, **Loot n’ Booty** and **Lady of Q**, will compete in the professional series and visit with the public. Performances by legendary chart toppers, **Tierra**, Grammy nominated **Ray Brooks and the Bluz Masters**; rock artist Brownbag Johnson, Pop princess, **Destenee** and crowd favorites, The Storybook Villains add to the live entertainment and festival flavor.

Festival Hours: Saturday, May 20, 2017: 11:00 am – 6:30 pm. For more information or to register for the contest, visit www.socalbbqbash.com or call (951) 444-1280.

About The Organizer: Service Through Action is an organization that has been at the forefront of social change. They courageously take an innovative stance on issues such as education, leadership development and healthy environments. Through creative arts, community service, education and advocacy, they improve the quality of life for youth, their families and the community.