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Peterson Companies announces Jim L. Mertz, Jr. CCIM, CPM has joined the Company as Vice President of Retail Development
Mertz to oversee the Company's 2 M SF Retail Development Pipeline

Fairfax, Virginia, February 18, 2014—Taylor O. Chess, President of the Retail Division of Peterson Companies, announced today that Jim Mertz has been named Vice President of Retail Development. Mertz will manage all aspects of the development program for Peterson's Retail division and serve as part of the senior leadership team. He is responsible for leading the development of the company's Avonlea, Commonwealth Center and Crosstrail mixed-use developments in Loudoun County to name a few.

"Jim's thorough knowledge of Loudoun and Fairfax Counties, combined with his more than 30 years of experience in developing and managing complex mixed-use projects, made him the ideal candidate" Chess said. "His expertise will be a tremendous asset to the Company as we have several active and planned development sites throughout the region."

Most recently, Jim was a Partner and Executive Vice President with Carbon Thompson Development Corporation where he spent the last 10 years leading their Northern Virginia office. During his tenure, Jim oversaw the acquisition, development and disposition of two signature mixed-use projects totaling over \$250 million dollars in Loudoun and Arlington Counties and initiated the land acquisition site plan development for a million square foot project in Fairfax County. Prior to that, he had extensive portfolio asset management and leasing responsibility with both Cushman Wakefield and Mack Cali REIT.

Jim holds a Masters of Business Administration in Real Estate from University of North Texas and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from University of Texas at Austin. He is a member of the International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC), the Northern Virginia Chapter of NAIOP and previous board member of the Dallas NAIOP Chapter. He holds the Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM) Designation and the Certified Property Manager (CPM) designation.

"The Peterson Companies has a tremendous reputation throughout the region for developing some of the most recognized and successful retail, residential, office and mixed use projects," said Mertz. "I look forward to joining Taylor's team and playing a critical role in moving several exciting new developments forward."

About Peterson Companies:

Peterson Companies is one of the largest privately owned real estate development companies in the Washington, DC region and offers fully-integrated development and management services for commercial, office, residential and retail real estate. The company is responsible for some of the most prominent and successful mixed-use retail, residential and office developments in Northern

Virginia and Maryland including National Harbor, Virginia Gateway, Downtown Silver Spring, RIO Washingtonian, Fairfax Corner, Fair Lakes, Burke Centre and Tysons McLean Office Park. Founded by Milt Peterson over 30 years ago, the company has an extensive two million square foot development pipeline throughout the Washington, DC region. For more information about the company, please visit www.petersoncos.com.