



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Andrew Aiken named President/CEO of the Palm Beach Zoo

WEST PALM BEACH - Andrew Aiken has been named the new President and CEO of the Palm Beach Zoo replacing Dr. Terry Maple who is retiring Sept. 30, 2011.

In January, Maple will join the faculty at Florida Atlantic University's Wilkes Honors College in Jupiter.

"I am very grateful for the opportunity to lead the Palm Beach Zoo during the past six years," said Maple. "I am especially proud of the opening of the Melvin J. and Claire Levine Animal Care Center."

Aiken, 50, joined the zoo's board of directors in 2002 and has been a leader in the zoo's successful expansion. As chairman of the Construction Oversight Committee, Aiken was responsible for development of exhibits including the *Cornell Tropics of the Americas*, *Florida Reptile House*, *Wings Over Water*, the *Levine Animal Care Complex*, and the new *Koala House*.

Passionate about conservation and the mission of the zoo, Aiken brings organizational strength, attention to detail, and inspired leadership to the zoo's management team.

"I am pleased to be assuming the position of President and CEO of the Palm Beach Zoo following Dr. Maple's recent retirement announcement," said Aiken. "Dr. Maple has done a great job in advancing the Zoo's mission of animal health and wellness, education, and conservation over the past six years."

"Under Dr. Maple's stewardship, the zoo completed our very popular *Wings Over Water* exhibit, a beautiful new *Koala house*, and the first LEED - Gold Certified animal hospital in the country," said Aiken.

“Thanks to his additional development efforts, we are well on our way to breaking ground on a new tiger exhibit for our rapidly expanding big cat population as well as new administrative facilities in a refurbished city property in Dreher Park. I look forward to Dr. Maple’s mentorship as we make this transition.”

Background: Aiken was born and raised in New England, where he graduated from Trinity College, and later received his M.S. from the Center for Real Estate at MIT. Aiken and his family moved to Palm Beach County in 1994, where he became a principal of Renaissance Partners. During the next decade, Renaissance Partners was instrumental in attracting a multitude of local, regional, and national businesses to the Clematis Street corridor, which became known as “the hottest street in Florida.”

In 1999, the *Palm Beach Post’s* list of Top Business People of the Century included Aiken and his partner David Frisbie at No. 9.

Aiken and his wife,, Khooshe, live in Palm Beach.