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CENTRAL BBQ PARTNERS WITH KEMMONS WILSON COMPANIES TO SPUR GROWTH IN MEMPHIS MARKET AND BEYOND.

Memphis, TN - May 2017 – Two Memphis-based, family-owned entities, Kemmons Wilson Companies (KWC) and Central BBQ, are excited to announce a new partnership to help fuel growth of Central BBQ in the coming years.

“We initially approached Central BBQ because we were huge fans of their product. It was apparent they focused on creating excellent food and reminded us of what our grandfather, Kemmons Wilson, did with Holiday Inn where quality and consistency were paramount,” shared Webb Wilson, Principal, Kemmons Wilson Companies.

“The idea of growing Central BBQ beyond Memphis is exciting. We know KWC will bring resources and operational expertise to position ourselves for even greater success in the future,” stated Craig Blondis, co-founder, Central BBQ. “We know that KWC’s deep heritage in hospitality will be beneficial to Central BBQ and that our shared values of high quality, customer service, and community impact will remain throughout our next phase of growth.”

“It is no coincidence that Central BBQ is consistently ranked #1 in barbeque both by Memphians and by a national audience. Craig and Roger have done an excellent job of pursuing their passion while maintaining the highest standards for their product,” said Wilson. “We look forward to introducing the Central BBQ brand to a much broader audience.”

Central BBQ will continue to focus on delivering great food in Memphis and the surrounding area with future plans for growth outside of Memphis and online.

About Central BBQ

Memphis-based Central BBQ got its official start in 2002 but founders Craig Blondis and Roger Sapp actually met on the BBQ circuit in the mid-80s. After competing in Memphis in May’s World Championship Barbecue Cooking Contest and many other BBQ competitions they made the leap from friends to business partners. Known for its quality meats, Central BBQ has consistently been ranked #1 BBQ in Memphis since 2005. And outside of Memphis, Craig, Roger and Central BBQ have appeared on several national TV shows including Pitmasters, The Best Thing I Ever Ate, Crave and BBQ with Bobby Flay. Additionally Central BBQ has been featured in several national publications such as USA Today, Garden & Gun, Southern Living and Men’s Health. To learn more or to try CBQ out, order here www.cbqmemphis.com.

About Kemmons Wilson Companies

Kemmons Wilson Companies is a third-generation, single family office established in 1948 by Kemmons Wilson. Most noted for founding Holiday Inn, Kemmons was a serial entrepreneur who never stopped creating or investing in businesses. Having owned, operated or partnered with people in over 400 ventures to date, the third generation helps lead the company today with a concentration in seven (7) key industries – aviation, cleantech, financial services technology, hotel development and management, insurance, real estate development and resort timesharing but are also open to opportunities outside these areas. We continue to exemplify the same core values, people-first and long-term perspective that our predecessors instilled. To learn more, visit www.kwilson.com.