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Media Contact: David Lee, Executive Director, CAVEC, 415-397-6068

**CHINESE AMERICAN VOTERS EDUCATION COMMITTEE HOLDS
31ST ANNUAL GALA CELEBRATING THE YEAR OF THE PIG AND
HONORING CIVIC AND COMMUNITY LEADERS**

SAN FRANCISCO, March 1, 2007 -- The Chinese American Voters Education Committee (CAVEC) tonight is holding its 31st Annual Gala Celebrating the Year of the Pig at Empress of China in San Francisco. In addition to celebrating CAVEC's accomplishments of the past year, four special honorees will be acknowledged for their deep commitment to citizenship:

- 2007 Public Service Award recognizing her leadership and dedication to San Francisco education: Superintendent Gwen Chan, San Francisco Unified School District
- 2007 Public Service Award recognizing her dedicated civic leadership and commitment to public service through her work as the first Asian American Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission (1994-1997) and first Asian American in her current role as Commissioner of the California Public Utilities Commission: Rachelle Chong
- 2007 Year of the Pig Award for local and national commitment to community service: State Farm Insurance Companies
- 2007 Year of the Pig Award for her personal and professional dedication to non-profit organizations: Lisa Stevens, EVP, Regional President, San Francisco Bay Area, Regional Banking, Wells Fargo & Company

Featured speakers at the gala include Mistress of Ceremonies Lisa Chan, anchor of the CBS5 Weekend Early Edition; California Secretary of State Debra Bowen; and Assemblywoman Fiona Ma.

The Chinese American Voters Education Committee (CAVEC) is a non-profit, non-partisan citizen education organization in the San Francisco Bay Area. Its goal is to help the large population of Asian immigrants in that area to become active participants in the civic life of the area.

"I am absolutely thrilled our awards committee selected such an outstanding group of leaders. PUC Commissioner Rachelle Chong, Superintendent Gwen Chan, and President Lisa Stevens have each devoted their careers to public service and volunteerism. They are role models who are inspiring the next generation of Asian American leaders not only to succeed but to give

back,” said David E. Lee, Executive Director of CAVEC. “CAVEC is also proud to recognize State Farm Insurance for their over two decades of support of our work.”

CAVEC has grown into the premier community-based program focused entirely upon increasingly the civic integration and participation of Asian Americans. Over two decades ago, CAVEC pioneered bilingual voter registration drives in Chinatown and other immigrant communities by working to strengthen civic journalism in the ethnic news media; charting and reporting on demographic change; providing technical assistance to grassroots organizations; organizing bilingual voter education programs; sponsoring public education campaigns; and funding non-partisan voter registration drives.

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