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FOR: IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RE: GLENN W. EKEY APPOINTED CHIEF DEVELOPMENT OFFICER AT PALM BEACH ZOO

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December 3, 2007, West Palm Beach, FL – Dr. Terry L. Maple, president & CEO of the Palm Beach Zoo has announced the appointment of Glenn W. Ekey as chief development officer. Ekey has assumed responsibility for all fundraising operations including capital gifts, private donations, foundation grants, and the popular Big Cat Club.

“Glenn Ekey is a seasoned professional who has an excellent track record of raising significant funds. He also has substantial zoo experience which makes him an ideal choice for the Palm Beach Zoo,” said Dr. Maple. “I am confident that he will help us reach our fundraising goals on all fronts.”

Ekey, who most recently served as president & CEO of the Zoological Society of Florida in Miami, said “I am very excited to be part of the Palm Beach Zoo team. This is an extraordinary facility with tremendous potential for growth. I believe we have what it takes to play a leading role among American zoos, and to make great strides in the future development of our beautiful zoo here in Palm Beach County.”

Prior to serving as its president for five years, Ekey was executive director of the Zoological Society of Florida for ten years. He and his team worked hand-in-hand with Miami Metrozoo to rebuild the facility after its total destruction by Hurricane Andrew in 1992. They also developed a public/private partnership with Miami-Dade County that increased the zoo’s attendance by 25%. Ekey served as a catalyst and key implementer of a new \$350 million master plan to revitalize Miami Metrozoo and generate an estimated \$1.1 billion of economic impact. During his administration, the Zoological Society helped to raise over \$100 million toward realization of the plan through the Building Better Communities Bond issue and from private donations.

Prior to moving to Florida, Ekey served as director of the Rhode Island Zoological Society in Providence and director of marketing & public relations for the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden. He was born and raised in Dayton, Ohio and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Ohio Wesleyan University. He and his wife Diane have one daughter.

The Palm Beach Zoo is a non profit zoological organization located at Dreher Park in West Palm Beach. Its mission is to provide an open-air classroom of living creatures to foster awareness, appreciation and respect for the natural world. The zoo is sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the

Florida Arts Council, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Support for the zoo is also provided by the Palm Beach County Tourist Development Council, the Board of County Commissioners and the Palm Beach County Cultural Council.

Palm Beach Zoo is located at 1301 Summit Boulevard, just east of I-95 between Southern and Forest Hill Boulevard. Admission: Regular \$12.95, Seniors 60+ \$9.95, Children 3-12 \$8.95, under 3 years and Zoo Members are free. The zoo is open every day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Closed Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.) For more information visit www.palmbeachzoo.org.

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**Palm Beach Zoo • 1301 Summit Boulevard, West Palm Beach FL, 33405-3098
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