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### **Valerie Liese will serve as 2009 California Trucking Association President**

Valerie Liese will lead CTA as the 2009 President, the first woman to hold the post in the association's 75 year history.

West Sacramento, CA – The California Trucking Association (CTA) concluded their Annual Management Conference last week and elected Valerie Liese to serve as the 2009 CTA President. Valerie Liese is the first woman to hold the position in the association's history. Valerie Liese is President of Jack Jones Trucking in Ontario, a company her father started with one truck in 1971.

Growing up as one of five children, Val started her career in trucking at the age of fourteen, changing oil and washing trucks. When not in school, she would do what it took to get the business off the ground, whether it was unloading a truck or working in the office typing up delivery receipts or loading manifests. She even helped build one of the company's first offices in the back of a plastic extruding plant after loading trucks at night, then putting up walls until the wee hours of the morning until it was time to start the next day's deliveries.

Valerie was promoted from office manager to president when her father retired in 1994. After being in the business for over 37 years, she grew the company to over 80 employees and recently built a 126,000 square foot state-of-the-art terminal in Ontario after 19 years in a 21 door terminal in Chino. Since becoming President of Jack Jones Trucking, Inc. JJT has been listed in the Business Press as one of the top ten trucking companies and top ten woman-owned companies in the Inland Empire. Jack Jones Trucking hauls throughout Southern California and her drivers are home every night. Some of the drivers have been with the company for 35 years, the average employee has 10 or more years experience in the business.

Val and her company have been members of CTA for nearly 20 years and she is very active in the policy committees and unit activities. Val credits the knowledge she has gained and put to use in her business to being active in CTA.

Given the economy and the recent tough rules passed by the California Air Resources Board, Val stresses the importance of the industry working together. "Right now it's a matter of working together as members and getting in survival mode." As CTA sets out on a new year Val is looking forward to the challenge and the work. "We all have a common goal," she notes. "We want to see our industry grow."

Last year, Valerie was president of the Foundation for Kids, a non-profit group that raises funds for children's homes helping abused and neglected children throughout the Southern California area. She currently resides with her husband Bob and a menagerie of pets close to her terminal and enjoys playing golf.

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