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“Dr. Beach” Names Florida’s Siesta Beach America’s Best Beach

Miami, FL—**Embargoed for release at 9 AM EST on Thursday, May 25, 2017.** Siesta Beach is number one in the 27th annual Top 10 Beach List, produced by coastal expert Dr. Stephen P. Leatherman, professor at Florida International University.

Siesta Beach boasts that it has the finest, whitest sand in the world, which attracts sand collectors and beach lovers from all over. The clear, clean waters along this gently-sloping beach-face make for ideal swimming. The beach is hundreds of yards wide, attracting fitness fans and volleyball players. Siesta is a year-round beach that is very popular with snowbirds during the winter months. There are lifeguards along this crescent-shaped beach along with full amenities. Recent upgrades include expanded parking, while maintaining the beautiful natural environment, and a free trolley to transport beachgoers.

As “Dr. Beach” (www.DrBeach.org), Leatherman has selected the annual Top 10 Beaches since 1991. Fifty criteria are used to evaluate beaches, which include water and sand quality as well as safety and management. Dr. Leatherman is an internationally known coastal scientist who has published 20 books and hundreds of scientific articles and reports about storm impacts, coastal erosion and ways to improve beach health and safety.

More emphasis is being placed on environmental management and beach safety. Bonus points are awarded for prohibition of smoking on beaches. Previous National Winners are retired and listed on my web site.

Additional Online Resources:

Biography for Dr. Stephen P. Leatherman: www.drbeach.org/pressreleases/CV_Leatherman.doc

Photographs: www.drbeach.org/mediakit.htm

Dr. Beach’s 50 Criteria: www.drbeach.org/50criteria.htm

TOP 10 BEACHES 2017

1. Siesta Beach
Sarasota, Florida
2. Kapalua Bay Beach
Maui, Hawaii
3. Ocracoke Lifeguarded Beach,
Outer Banks of North Carolina
4. Grayton Beach State Park
Florida panhandle
5. Coopers Beach
Southampton, New York
6. Coast Guard Beach
Cape Cod, Massachusetts
7. Caladesi Island State Park
Dunedin/Clearwater, Florida
8. Hapuna Beach State Park
Big Island, Hawaii
9. Coronado Beach
San Diego, California
10. Beachwalker Park
Kiawah Island, South Carolina