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**NEW PRESIDENT FOR THE OVARIAN CANCER NATIONAL ALLIANCE IS NAMED**

Washington D.C. – *July 19, 2010*. The Ovarian Cancer National Alliance has named Annette Leal Mattern the new president of the board of directors. A 23-year survivor of ovarian cancer and two-year survivor of breast cancer, Annette is a passionate advocate for women coping with cancer. She is a leader in the ovarian cancer movement and a national voice for women's health.

Preceding her cancer volunteer work, Annette achieved leadership positions at AT&T and US WEST/Qwest where she was appointed Vice President of Marketing, Sales and Public Relations. She received the National Women of Color in Technology "Enlightenment Award" for changing the face of leadership and in 2000 was recognized by Vice President Gore as one of the 10 most influential Hispanic Women in American business.

Upon recovering from a recurrence of ovarian cancer, Annette left her corporate career to immerse herself in helping women live with the devastating disease. In 2003, she published her book, *Outside the Lines of Love, Life, and Cancer*, which is well-regarded by cancer support organizations.

"The Ovarian Cancer National Alliance is most fortunate that Annette has assumed the presidency of our board. She is a rigorous advocate for women's health, an inspiring survivor and a keen bridge builder who has contributed to the ovarian cancer movement on many levels. Her passion to help families cope with this deadly disease makes her invaluable to the next phase of this critical work," said Dr. Karen Orloff Kaplan, CEO of the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance.

Annette has served on the board of directors of the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance for six years and is chair of the Marketing and Communications committee. She also co-founded the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Arizona, and serves as its president.

Former board president, Christy Schmidt has resigned her term to address the quality of care and quality of life issues for cancer patients and survivors on behalf of the American Society of Clinical Oncology. Christy will remain on the board of directors, particularly contributing her well-recognized policy expertise on behalf of those touched by ovarian cancer.

The American Cancer Society estimates 21,880 new cases and 13,850 deaths caused by ovarian cancer in the United States in 2010. Relative five year survival rates remain below 50 percent. The low survival rate is attributable in part to the lack of a reliable early detection test, which would enable diagnosis when the disease is most treatable.

The Ovarian Cancer National Alliance is the foremost advocate for women with ovarian cancer in the United States. To advance the interests of women with ovarian cancer, the organization advocates at a national level for increases in research funding for the development of an early detection test, improved health care practices, and life-saving treatment protocols. The Ovarian Cancer National Alliance educates health care professionals and raises public awareness of the signs and symptoms of ovarian cancer. The Ovarian Cancer National Alliance is a 501 (c) (3) organization established in 1997.

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