

For Immediate Release

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Missing Hiker - Jason Pettigrew, Associate AIA
Professional Life Celebrated as Leader in Organization and the Community

July 31, 2004 (Denver, Colorado) -- The Board of Directors of the Colorado Component of The American Institute of Architects (AIA Colorado) is saddened by the passing of one of our associate members, Jason Pettigrew, Assoc. AIA.

Chris Green, AIA, 2004 President of AIA Colorado noted, "Jason touched the lives of many individuals, both within our professional organization, as well as outside of it. Jason inspired our organization through his leadership. I valued his energy, contribution and opinions. His approach, attitude and leadership values will be deeply missed."

Jason served our organization in a number of significant positions of leadership. He was the first Associate Director for the Western Mountain Region Board – a regional board that represents the states of Colorado, Wyoming, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and Las Vegas on the National AIA Board of Directors. Jason was also a member of the 2003 AIA Colorado State Board of Directors as an Associate Director.

Jason recently served as the Chair of the fifth annual Young Architects Award's Gala (YAAG) which is a nationally recognized event honoring the efforts of the emerging professionals and students of Architecture in Colorado. Jason's significant leadership was recognized nationally by the member firm he worked for and by and the 2004 AIA Colorado Board of Directors through his nomination for the AIA Associate Member of the Year award given annually at the National Convention of the American Institute of Architects.

In his letter written on behalf of Pettigrew's nomination for AIA Associate Member of the Year, President Green wrote, "Jason's leadership and his team are strengthening an event (YAAG) that is singularly unique not just for AIA Colorado, but for the American Institute of Architects."

Upon hearing of Jason's passing, RK Stewart, FAIA, National Vice President of the American Institute of Architects noted, "This was a guy who was the best of our future".

For the past several years – on his own initiative – Jason continued to create a fabric of involvement for Associate and Student members of AIA Colorado by organizing 'outings' that would include social events and architectural events in the Denver area.

"Jason was a genuine, passionate and inspirational individual. He will be missed by our staff and all of our members," said Sonia Riggs, AIA Colorado Executive Director.

One Park Central
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Jason was working on completing the examinations for his architecture license in Colorado while working for one of the AIA's member firms in Denver.

At the request of the family, those wishing to remember Jason are asked to send contributions to Custer County Search and Rescue. No flowers please.

Custer County Search and Rescue
PO Box 1489
Westcliffe, CO 81252

Memorial services are pending.

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The American Institute of Architects (AIA) is the voice of the architecture profession dedicated to: serving its members, advancing their value and improving the quality of the built environment. Through a culture of innovation, The American Institute of Architects empowers its members and inspires creation of a better-built environment.

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