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An open letter from Marc Maurer, President, National Federation of the Blind (NFB) to potential 2009 NFB National Convention sponsors and exhibitors

During the period of July 3 through July 8, more than 3,000 people will be in Detroit, Michigan, for the 2009 convention of the National Federation of the Blind. This convention promises to be an exciting, productive, and memorable week for the organized blind of this country. Your product or service is of interest to blind persons, and I believe that our convention can provide unequalled exposure for your firm or organization. Therefore, I cordially invite you to exhibit at our convention.

One of the associated documents available on this Web site is entitled "2009 Guidelines." Please read and become familiar with these guidelines. Exhibitors are asked to pay a \$750 per table exhibit fee in order to help defray convention costs. Please let us know of your intentions to exhibit at the convention by returning the application along with your exhibit fee, plus electric fee, if desired, by Friday, May 29, to Exhibit Coordinator, National Federation of the Blind, 1800 Johnson Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21230. Because of the increasing demand, space allocation will be based, in part, on the order in which we receive applications.

The "2009 Fact Sheet" provides additional information about our convention, including information about hotel room reservations. All room reservations must be made directly with the Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center by calling 1-800-266-9432. As in the past, we reserve the right to condition convention rates for hotel rooms on proof of registration for the convention. The exhibitor fees do not include the convention registration fee of \$15 per person by preregistration online, or by using the 2009 National Convention PreRegistration Form, during the preregistration timeframe of March 1st through May 31st. If you fill out the 2009 National Convention Preregistration Form with the intention of returning it the same time as returning the exhibitor application form, be certain to send separate payment for the registration fee. Please **DO NOT** combine the payments of exhibitor and convention registration fees. All preregistration forms that are mailed in must be accompanied by a separate check or money order. We cannot accept a credit card for mailed-in preregistration payments.

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If you do not preregister for the convention, please be aware that registration can be accomplished beginning Saturday morning, July 4, at a cost of \$20 per person. Registration remains open all day Saturday and Sunday and will be open numerous hours throughout the convention period.

The document, entitled "2009 Sponsorship Opportunities" will be of particular interest to those exhibitors who would benefit from the increased recognition, the visibility, and the opportunity to be open in the exhibit hall during a special "Sponsor Evening" from 7-10 p.m. on Monday, July 6. In addition, your sponsor ad will appear in our 2009 Convention Agenda if art-ready files are received by May 1. Please review the sponsorship information carefully to determine all of the benefits related to including your organization as a sponsor at this year's convention, and use the "2009 Sponsor Form" to show your support of the NFB.

We hope you will join us this summer in Detroit.

Very truly yours,

Marc Maurer

Marc Maurer, President
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND