

Republic Services Cleans Up Washington

January 23, 2009 - PHOENIX--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--President Barack Obama's inaugural speech to the nation began with the words: "My fellow citizens, I stand here today humbled by the task before us..." Those were the same thoughts of the 1,350 workers who faced the daunting challenge of cleaning up the National Mall and parade route following all Presidential Inauguration festivities. The clean up effort was coordinated by Republic Services, Inc. (NYSE: RSG), a leading provider of solid waste collection, transfer and disposal services, and its local operations, Allied Waste Services, in Washington, DC and Virginia.

"This massive clean up job was a historic project for us," said Melvin Pfannenstein, General Manager for Republic Services' local division, Allied Waste Services. "Cleaning up after 75,000 fans following the Super Bowl is one thing. Cleaning up after almost 2 million people following the Presidential Inauguration is something else altogether."

The inauguration festivities began on Sunday, January 18, with some 400,000 people attending concerts and speeches. Activities continued to swell until the historic inauguration and Presidential parade on Tuesday, January 20, which more than 1.8 million people attended.

Immediately following the swearing-in ceremony, speech and benediction, Republic Services' 1,350 employees and temporary workers began work to clean up the trash that was left in the wake of the festivities. The cleanup consisted of emptying recycling boxes and trash removal on the National Mall following Sunday's concert, trash removal and recycling at the National Mall following the swearing in ceremonies and cleanup along the parade route. Approximately 50 tons of waste and recyclables were collected from the National Mall and the parade route.

Republic Services was retained for the massive Inauguration Day cleanup following the company's performance at the Election Night celebration in Chicago's Grant Park in November. "The event organizers were so impressed with our work after cleaning up Grant Park that they contacted our local division in Washington, DC to work on the inauguration," said Christine Meket, Sales Manager at Allied Waste Services in Washington, DC.

The planning for the inauguration cleanup began in December, as Republic Services and its local operations worked closely with Washington DC officials and the Presidential Inaugural Committee. "This was an enormous effort," said Mr. Pfannenstein. "We quickly engaged the help of AAA Trash and Recycling, which is a local Republic division in Virginia. Together, our team did an outstanding job."

“Everyone pitched in to help,” continued Mr. Pfannenstein. “We had managers, accountants, supervisors, drivers, helpers, billing clerks, sales representatives, customer service personnel and mechanics working on the clean up. It was a tremendous demonstration of our employees’ commitment to the highest level of customer service and satisfaction.”