



## Human Resources Professional of the Year 2008 Award Winner

**Juan Gomez, SPHR**

*Regional Human Resources Manager - TruGreen*

The HR Professional of the Year award recognizes a member of the Charlotte Area SHRM chapter who has shown outstanding leadership not only in the HR community - CASHRM, the NC State Council and other organizations - but who has also exemplified service to the HR profession, leadership in the business community and service to the local community.

It is with great pleasure that we announce the recipient of the 2008 award – **Juan Gomez, SPHR**.

Our 2008 recipient did not follow a traditional path into HR. He originally planned to become a Catholic priest. After some soul searching he changed his mind and decided on another noble profession: Human Resources. Juan earned his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the Catholic University of America and is also a Certified Senior Professional of Human Resources (SPHR). In 2004 he was certified as a DDI facilitator and trainer.

Juan's passion for HR began 15 years ago as a director of operations for a large restaurant chain. Since then, he has worked in both the manufacturing and service industries as a HR generalist in the capacity of HR Manager, HR Director and in his current position as HR Regional Manager for TruGreen.

Our 2008 HR Professional of the Year has the heart of a truly giving person. He is always trying to find some way to give back to his profession and many other worthy causes. He gives unselfishly of his time to aid, assist, and guide CASHRM, the NC State Council, District V SHRM Chapters, and the 2008 State HR Conference.

Juan is a human resources leader in his company, having contributed in many ways as advisor, trainer, and internal consultant. He is highly regarded by senior management in HR, other HR colleagues, and TruGreen employees. TruGreen recognized his capability and solicited his participation in service on a company restructuring/reorganization team designed to improve the functionality of human resources. In May 2007, ServiceMaster, the parent company for TruGreen, awarded him with the HR Service Excellence Award for all of his contributions. Recently, he implemented a first of its kind, on-line webinar study class for TruGreen HR Associates who were interested in pursuing their PHR/SPHR certification.

Juan has been a member of CASHRM chapter since 2001, and has served as Secretary, First Vice President and 2006 President. During his tenure, he has focused his efforts to adding member value, enhancing the use of technology to facilitate membership communications/transaction and improving our CASHRM website. He currently serves as CASHRM Webmaster, Promotions Committee Co-chair for the 2008 NCSHRM State Conference and on the State Council as NC-SHRM District Director V.

Civic and religious leadership are also important to Juan. He has served as a ministry leader for many years at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Advisory Board Member to the Catholic Diocese of Charleston, Diocesan Director for Hispanic Ministry (Diocese of Charleston), a board member for the Greenville Literacy Association, and a Greenville Technical College Advisory Board Member. Juan was recently elected president of his newly formed homeowners association, and he has coordinated several committees and a community crime watch group. The contributions he is making with the help of over 40 volunteers is improving community relations and making his area a very desirable community.

Congratulations to **Juan Gomez, SPHR**, 2008 CASHRM HR Professional of the Year.