

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PSC Investigation Reveals No Shortage of Anti-Entrapment Drain Covers

Major Manufacturers Processing Orders, Meeting Demand

WASHINGTON, DC – February 12, 2009 – In an effort to combat inaccurate news stories around the country, the Pool Safety Council today released an investigative report that finds pool drain covers that meet the requirements of the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act are easy to come by and that pool operators should have little trouble placing orders in order to comply with the new law.

The investigation was conducted in response to stories that have cropped up across America about public pools having great difficulty obtaining new covers required by the Pool and Spa Safety Act, which went into effect in December. PSC interviewed many of the top manufacturers of the drain covers, which requires public pools install approved safety drain covers to help prevent drain entrapment, and the findings indicate covers are far easier to find than recent reports would have you believe. “Everybody’s starting to step up,” Wade Arens, co-founder of major drain manufacturer Aquastar Pool Products, said of himself and his colleagues. “It’s getting better daily.”

The Virginia Graeme Baker Act is named after former Secretary of State James Baker’s granddaughter, who died after becoming entrapped on a residential spa’s drain. Before opening in 2009, all public pools must install approved safety drain covers. All single drain public pools must also install an anti-entrapment device.

“Pool and Spa Safety Act was a major step in the direction of making our pools safer,” said PSC Spokesman John Procter. “But too many pool owners and operators seem to have thrown their hands in the air, claiming they are unable to meet the law’s requirements due to lack of supply. We want to set the record straight – and have found that the equipment needed for most pools to comply with the Pool and Spa Safety Act is available today.”

PSC is a non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of child drowning nationwide. The full report and additional information can be found by visiting: www.poolsafetycouncil.org.