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PRESS RELEASE

WORKFORCE INTRODUCES AWARDS AT ANNUAL BOARD MEETING

El Paso, Texas – November 29, 2016: At its Annual Board Meeting on November 17th, Workforce Solutions Borderplex (WSB) celebrated the contributions of its board members and business partners. At the event, Board Chair Leo A. Duran Sr. introduced the first ever Business Partner Awards and the Chairman’s Award for special contributions by a board member.

“Our board members and business partners are exceptional and we are so pleased to get to recognize them this way,” said Board Chair Leo A. Duran Sr. “Launching what will be a new tradition is meaningful and impactful to our organization.”

The 2016 awards presented are listed below.

Chairman’s Award Dr. William Serrata

Dr. William Serrata has supported WSB in numerous projects. He has lead partnership discussions for Skills Development Fund Grants and has graciously allowed WSB to use EPCC facilities at no cost for the Regional Workforce & Education Forum, the TWC Veteran’s Forum and two STEAM Fiesta events. Under his direction, EPCC donated a \$1,000 scholarship to WSB. Dr. Serrata currently chairs the Education Committee.

Small Business Partner of the Year Award Aztec Contractors Inc.

Frank Spencer, Owner and Nancy Leanos, Office Manager of Aztec Contractors have been advocates of WSB employer tools for almost two years. They work closely with WSB recruiters to find qualified job seekers for higher skilled positions in the construction field. Aztec has participated in Industry Council Roundtables as well as industry job fairs. Mr. Spencer is also a WSB board member.

Medium Business Partner of the Year Award Excel Garment Manufacturing

Excel Garment Manufacturing is an active employer who utilizes the WSB to find quality candidates. Paola Miranda, HR Specialist, serves as an asset to the WSB Business Services Unit. Since May 2015, Excel has participated in two of the largest industry job fairs targeting the manufacturing industry. In 2016, Excel held eight onsite job fairs to fill their various sewing positions. The company has also participated in our two Manufacturing Industry Council Roundtables.

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**Large Business Partner of the Year Award
Charles Schwab**

Charles Schwab's open communication and feedback on WSB's Business Services Unit has allowed the organization to assist the company with higher wage employment opportunities. Senior Talent Sourcing Advisor at Charles Schwab, Jodie Meyerov, has partnered with WSB in four large industry job fairs. Her job postings in WorkinTexas.com have allowed her to locate quality employees. In January 2016, she participated in the WSB staff retreat. Jodie has gone above and beyond by hosting a developmental workshop during the SISD Career Expo in which she provided job seekers with guidance and information about improving resume and interview skills.

About Workforce Solutions Borderplex

Workforce Solutions Borderplex is a non-profit organization aimed to help improve the quality of life in a six-county region. That region encompasses the counties of Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis and Presidio. The organization consists of a 27-member Board of Directors responsible for strategic guidance and policy governance to achieve goals focusing on employment, education and economic development. Funding comes from the Department of Labor, the Department of Health and Human Services and Department of Agriculture. For more information about the organization please visit our website at www.borderplexjobs.com

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