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NEWS RELEASE

Marking 40 Years of Excellence, Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas
Fortifies Leadership with New Board Appointments

DALLAS - Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas, celebrating its 40th year as the convenor of workforce development services for Dallas County, is pleased to announce the appointment of the following distinguished community and industry leaders to its Board of Directors by Dallas County Judge Clay Lewis Jenkins and Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson.

- William M. Behrendt, Principal Consultant, Behrendt Consulting
- Jefferey K. Caldwell, Program Manager – Region 3, Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- Karen Hughes, President, Vogel Alcove
- Gunnar Rawlings, Vice President, Corporate Work Study Program and Strategic Initiatives, Cristo Rey Dallas College Prep
- Crystal Sanders, Integrated Service Area Manager, Texas Workforce Commission
- T. Dupree Scovell, Managing Partner, Woodbine
- Lisa Sherrod, Assistant Vice President, External and Legislative Affairs, AT&T
- Jason Villalba, Partner, Frost Brown Todd

These newly appointed Board directors, selected for their knowledge and expertise, assume a crucial role as advocates for employers and job seekers. Their commitment aligns with the Board's mission to ensure competitive solutions for employers through quality people and for people through quality jobs. Each director will play a pivotal role in contributing to the success of industry-led workforce development efforts in the greater Dallas area.

The meticulous selection process involves the chief elected officials recommending nominees from a variety of backgrounds. This includes private sector employers, organized labor, community-based organizations, educational agencies, economic development agencies, public assistance agencies, vocational rehabilitation agencies, public employment service, local literacy councils, and adult basic and continuing education organizations. Nominees undergo a comprehensive review and approval process by both the Board and the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC).

“I’m pleased that the Texas Workforce Commission has accepted our proposed slate of new Directors for 2024. These individuals will bring decades worth of experience and business

acumen to the Board. As Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas strives to meet the ever changing needs of both employers and jobseekers, I'm confident our new Board will find innovative ways to increase living wage jobs and lift up the whole of our community through workforce development, trainings and partnerships," said Clay Lewis Jenkins, Dallas County Judge.

"Workforce development - specifically building a workforce for the future - is a top priority for us in Dallas. Our ability to attract and grow businesses, build equity, and sustain our city's outstanding economic growth for years to come is directly tied to this critical issue. We need leaders who are willing to roll up their sleeves and who really understand this issue - leaders who aren't afraid to disrupt a system if it's not working at an optimal level, and so I'm excited to have these proven civic leaders bring their talents to the Workforce Solutions boardroom," shared Mayor Eric L. Johnson.

"We warmly welcome our new Board Directors and eagerly anticipate the expertise they bring to propel our employer-driven workforce system to new levels of excellence and innovation. It is an honor to be guided by our all-volunteer Board of Directors, composed of respected community leaders from Jacobs, Pepsico, Texas Instruments, AT&T, Dallas College, AECOM, JPMorgan Chase & Co, Polsinelli, and many others, who generously dedicate their time, talent, and energy to further our mission. Their impact on the communities we serve is profound, and we eagerly anticipate leveraging their expertise as we continually evolve with innovative approaches to meet our customers' needs and enhance the lives of all Texans," remarked Ashlee Verner, CPA, Interim President/CEO at Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas.

Texas is home to 28 Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) across the Texas Workforce Solutions network. This network comprises the Boards, TWC, and Texas Workforce Solutions-Vocational Rehabilitation Services. The workforce development Boards are responsible for creating strategies to implement Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funds, oversee services, collaborate with economic development groups, collect and evaluate labor market data, and develop career pathways.

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About Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas

Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas is a key player in driving economic growth through effective workforce development initiatives. By collaborating with stakeholders, we aim to empower individuals and contribute to the economic success of the Greater Dallas community. Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas exists to ensure competitive solutions FOR EMPLOYERS through quality people and FOR PEOPLE through quality jobs. Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas is recognized locally and nationally as a best-in-class workforce system that engages employers and offers the premier solutions for a qualified workforce; provides job seekers comprehensive solutions to employment; convenes a community workforce dialogue critical to economic development; and is recognized as the responsive and effective solution of choice.