



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AED Elects Jennifer Thomas as Chairman; Names New Board Members

December 27, 2011—Jennifer Thomas was elected Chairman of the Board for Albuquerque Economic Development, Inc. for 2012. Joining Thomas (Chairman & CEO, Bank of Albuquerque) as elected officers of AED are Chairman-Elect Steve Maestas (NAI Maestas & Ward), Treasurer Leean Kravitz (Fidelity Investments) and Secretary Ray Smith (Klinger Constructors). Jeff Parker (Manpower) was chairman of AED for 2011.

The following individuals will be joining the Board of Directors: Bruce Beebe (Wells Fargo); Mitch Coven (Vitality Works); Doug Gullino (Lovelace Health System); Jason Harrington (HB Construction); Alex Lupi (Tempur-Pedic); Kim Sawyer (Sandia National Labs); and Stuart Schroeder (ABQ Health Partners). They join 45 other business leaders who are serving staggered terms on the Board.

AED is the non-profit corporation leading the effort to recruit new business and industry to the metropolitan area as it also provides retention and expansion assistance to existing industry. AED is principally funded by the annual membership investment of nearly 350 leading area businesses. The City of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County also provide contract support to AED for marketing and existing industry services.

AED's 200 recruitment successes throughout its 50 year history include Intel, General Mills, Lowe's, Tempur-Pedic, SCHOTT Solar, Fidelity Investments, Hewlett-Packard and Gap Inc.'s Corporate Shared Service Center. AED's staff has also met with over 1,000 area companies since initiating an industry retention and expansion program nine years ago; 254 of those companies have created 6,209 jobs with a combined annual payroll of \$211.4 million.

For more information visit www.abq.org

See attached photos.



AED Chairman Jennifer Thomas
Bank of Albuquerque



AED Chairman-Elect Steve Maestas
NAI Maestas & Ward



AED Treasurer Leean Kravitz
Fidelity Investments



AED Secretary Ray Smith
Klinger Constructors

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