

July 14, 2021

Mr. Mike Guidroz, Chairman
Lafayette Economic Development Authority Board of Commissioners
c/o Next Move Group
lafayette@thenextmovegroup.com

RE: Lafayette Economic Development Authority President/CEO Position

Dear Mr. Guidroz,

LEDA has built a strong economic development foundation that supports the entrepreneur and wildcat spirit Lafayette is so widely known for. As Lafayette Parish continues to grow, it will see unprecedented investment in catalytic infrastructure projects like the \$1.2 billion I-49 Connector and the fully funded \$35 million University Gateway Corridor. The business development in these corridors and in the traditional business districts throughout the parish will be instrumental in defining how the change coming to Lafayette impacts our community.

The next chapter of the Lafayette Economic Development Authority has the potential to set a new vision for Lafayette's future. LEDA should be the agency to lead and build coalitions for the much needed federal and state highway funding, to develop our traditional and evolving businesses sectors and to bring Lafayette business leadership together in new ways. LEDA can and should have a voice in the Baton Rouge decision making processes; should and can sustain Lafayette as an ongoing leader in the energy sector; and strategically work to build the University of Louisiana as a key economic driver in the parish, the region and the state.

My experience as the CEO of the regional EDA Economic Development District has allowed me to have great impacts in Acadiana at a macro level. I am excited with the possibility of strategically focusing on Lafayette knowing the Acadiana region will always benefit from the great work done in the hub city and the parish. Being an integral part of the community and economic growth in Lafayette over the last six years has been an honor for me and has given me a unique foundation from which LEDA will be well served.

I appreciate the opportunity to offer my resume and look forward to visiting with the LEDA Board of Commissioners as we all work to build Lafayette's future.

Highest Regards,

Monique B. Boulet

noughe B. Bould

Monique B. Boulet



SKILLS AND STRENGHTS

- Visionary, able to implement a Vision with community stakeholders
- Solve complex problems
- Develop public and private collaboration
- Cross political and economic boundaries
- Strong federal, state and local government relationships
- Strong voice in state programming
- Known for project implementation
- Focus on collaboration and innovation
- Strong relationship and partnerships with the University of Louisiana and SLCC

- Strong relationships with local councils, legislators and elected leaders
- Strong public speaking experience
- Strategically organize and lead local, regional, state and federal summits, forums, conferences and meetings
- Leverage local media relationships
- Accountable to Board of Trustees
- Manage & develop high preforming staff
- Manage audited government accounting processes & funding
- Private and public sector experience

EXPERIENCE

Chief Executive Officer | Acadiana Planning Commission, APC | January 2016 - present

Worked with local governments in 2015 to establish Louisiana Planning District 4's Acadiana Planning Commission, and soon after received the federal EDA Economic Development District designation for Acadiana. Developed an annual \$2.4 million budget and 18 employees including professional planning, legal, engineering and GIS expertise to build regional capacity in our local governments and to manage an approximate \$6 million annual transportation FHWA allotment. Leads the region and often the state in regional economic development, watershed planning, opportunity zones, broadband planning, community development, revitalization projects, transportation planning, community revitalization, highway safety planning and project implementation. Hired by and accountable to a governing Board of Trustees that meets quarterly. Adheres to and audited for annual government accounting practices.

Key Projects: DOTD I-49 Connector Executive Committee | University Gateway Corridor Transportation Plan and Revitalization | InvestAcadiana Opportunity Zone Initiative | Less Pay Motel Demolition and Revitalization | Acadiana's Rural Fiber-to-the-Home Initiative | Acadiana's Regional Water Gauge Network | Louisiana Watershed Initiative | Acadiana's EDA Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy

Government Relations | South Central Planning and Development Commission | 2014 – 2016

Reintroduced the planning district concept to officials in the Acadiana region; facilitator of region-wide needs assessment; outreach and education resulting in the 2015 transfer of the Metropolitan Planning Organization with \$1million annual administration funds and 14 staffing positions to the newly formed APC.

Accounting/Marketing | Tusk Subsea Services, LLC | 2011-2013

Developed business plan to initiate bank and private equity funding for newly formed oil field service company and its subsidiaries. Established Accounting systems. Created brand identity and marketing.

Account Management/Marketing | Rivers Carlberg | 1993-1994

Account Executive for promotional materials for the Compaq Computer account.

Account Management/Marketing/Advertising | Sides & Associates | 1990-1993

Account Executive for Our Lady of Lourdes Regional Medical Center account.

EDUCATION

Executive Master of Business Administration | University of Louisiana | 2015

Graduate work in Business and Finance | University of New Orleans | 1996-1997

UNO Graduate Assistantship in the Division of Business and Economic Research

Bachelor of Arts in General Studies | University of Louisiana | 1990

IEDC, International Economic Development Council | CEcD certification in process

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

South Louisiana Community College Foundation Board | 2021 - present

BEL, Broadband for Everyone in Louisiana Commission | Governor John Bel Edwards appointment | 2019 - present One Acadiana Board | 2017 - present

NADO, National Association of Development Organizations | 2016 - present

EDA, US Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration | 2016 Emerging Leaders

Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist | Lector and Marriage Minister | 2012 - present

Schools of the Sacred Heart Board of Trustees | 2008 - 2014

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

IEDC: Broadband Solutions for Rural and Underserved Communities | Speaker

IEDC National Webinar | July 29, 2021

https://www.iedconline.org/index.php?src=events&srctype=detail&refno=87&category=Free%20Webinars

Acadiana Planning Commission: Using Opportunity Zones to Support Rural Wealth Creation

NADO National Case Study | March 11, 2021 | https://www.nado.org/ozprospectus/

Acadiana Planning Commission expands LUS Fiber to the region | Project Lead

EDA Grant for Fiber to the Home in Iberia Parish | Feb 2021

https://www.theadvertiser.com/story/news/local/2021/02/26/lus-fiber-wins-3-million-grant-hwy-90-high-speed-internet-backbone/6816302002/

Best Practices Interstate Summit | Speaker

Louisiana Watershed Initiative | February 14, 2021 | https://watershed.la.gov/assets/docs/2019.02.14-
Best-Practices-Bios.pdf

IEDC/FEMA: COVID 19 Workforce Economic Crisis, Unemployment and Job Insecurity | Speaker

IEDC/FEMA Interagency Recovery Coordination Speakers Series, Session III | Lead by IEDC President/CEO Jeff Finkle | Sept 24, 2020

Introduction to the Louisiana Watershed Initiative | Speaker

RESCON International, Introduction to the LA Watershed Initiative | Sept 2020

https://resconnola.com/2020-virtual-conference/

CONFIDENTIAL MONIQUE BOULET 2

Louisiana-The Thousand Year Flood, Speaker

FEMA Documentary: How the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF) Supports Disaster Recovery Documentary | July 6, 2020 | https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QIIDQlxbptc

Bottle Art Lofts and Demolition of the Less Pay Motel | Project Lead

Catalytic investment and project lead on historic revitalization of Lafayette's 4-Corners | 2016-present https://www.theadvertiser.com/story/news/local/2020/06/17/demolition-begins-lafayette-blighted-lesspay-motel-bottle-art-lofts-open-june-2021/3197643001/

White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, WHORC, Louisiana Roundtable at the White House | Organizer and Panelist

WHORC Roundtable with Louisiana leaders in Economic Development and Revitalization | Jan 23, 2020 Acadiana delegation visits White House to discuss Opportunity Zones (theadvertiser.com)

White House, WHORC visit to Acadiana | Organizer and Panelist

White House roundtables on Opportunity Zone Initiatives in Lafayette and Opelousas | August 6-7, 2019 https://planacadiana.org/opportunity-zones/august-6-7-2019-white-house-opportunity-revitalization-council-opelousaslafayette-roundtables/

Discover Lafayette Podcast, Monique Boulet

Discover Lafayette | October 11, 2019

https://discoverlafayette.net/podcast/monique-boulet-acadiana-planning-commission

Meet The Forbes OZ 20: The Top Players Investing for Lasting Impact | Project Lead

Forbes Magazine | December 18, 2019 | Invest Acadiana Opportunity Zone national recognition https://www.forbes.com/sites/stevenbertoni/2019/12/12/meet-the-forbes-oz-20-the-top-players-investing-for-lasting-impact/?sh=425f38f86805

Fourth National Climate Assessment Congressional Report | National Recognition

NCA4 | 2018 | Chapter 1, 19, appendix-5 | https://nca2018.globalchange.gov/

U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration Economic Development District Designation of the Acadiana Planning Commission | CEO and Project Lead | Sept 2017

Acadiana receives \$25 Million HMGP (first of its kind) Regional Allocation for Drainage | Project Lead Louisiana Hazard Mitigation Grant Program | August 2017

https://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/story/news/2017/08/03/acadiana-receive-30-m-hazard-mitigation-related-2016-flood/525806001/

LOUISIANA WATERSHED RESILIENCY STUDY Pilot | Project Lead

Report prepared for Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Preparedness

By Federal Emergency Management Agency | Mitigation Branch | Hazard Performance Analysis Group |

2016 – August 2017

References Available upon Request

CONFIDENTIAL MONIQUE BOULET 3

VERDELL L. HAWKINS, MPA

Education

Doctor of Philosophy in International Development (12/2023)

University of Southern Mississippi

Master of Public Administration with Specialization in Planning and Economic Development (05/02)

Andrew Young School of Policy Studies Georgia State University

Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a Minor in Business Management (05/00)

University of Southern Mississippi

Professional

Gulf Power Company (03/18 – Present)

Economic Development Manager

- Managed company efforts to attract new companies, jobs, and additional tax revenue to Northwest Florida
- Coordinated business retention and expansion efforts within the region
- Marketed Northwest Florida to international site location consultants, real estate developers, and other interested parties
- Collaborated with state, regional, and local economic development partners for the betterment of the State of Florida
- Coordinated engagement with minority and grassroots stakeholders
- Oversaw economic development budget dollars of over \$1 million annually
- Established and tracked annual goals and benchmarking efforts for the company
- Coordinated activities of several internal departments to achieve company objectives

Community Affairs Manager/ Executive Director – Gulf Power Foundation (04/15 - 02/18)

- Oversaw over \$1 million in foundation and company charitable contributions annually
- Coordinated company community engagement initiatives with government officials, the media, and general public throughout Northwest Florida
- Coordinated engagement with minority and grassroots stakeholders
- Coordinated company volunteer and disaster response efforts
- Coordinated customer and retiree engagement efforts
- Served as one of company's primary public liaisons
- Provided internal coaching on employment practices and performance management

Experience

Mississippi Power Company

District Manager – Meridian Division

(06/13 - 03/15)

 Oversaw external relations and customer service on behalf of Mississippi Power throughout the Meridian division

- Responsible for maintaining relationships with elected officials, business leaders, community leadership, and the general public
- Coordinated community service initiatives and charitable giving in the division – president of the division's community service organization
- Helped establish, organize, and operate a local community foundation (Served as board member and MPC liaison)
- Division contact for minority and grassroots organizations
- Provided presentations and updates on company activities
- Managed customer service/accounting offices

Community Affairs Manager – Kemper Energy Facility (05/11 – 06/13)

- Primary liaison to the public for this groundbreaking project
- Primary liaison with elected officials and community leaders
- Oversaw charitable giving and company contributions
- Helped establish a local community foundation through which grants were provided
- Provided community presentations and tours to hundreds of national and international guests
- Served as company spokesperson
- Crisis management liaison

Company Spokesperson/Media Relations Coordinator

(04/10 - 05/11)

Liaison to external media

• Media spokesperson on a range of company issues

Liaison to employee population of 1,300 and region of over 125,000

• Involved coordination with various internal departments including:

Human Resource Trainer/Facilitator (2006-2015)

• Facilitated Company training on 7 Habits of Highly Effective People

Economic Development Representative I, II, III (05-10)

Business Development Representative/Recruiter

- Promoted advantages of Mississippi Power territory to executives in the United States, Canada, and Europe
- Developed relationships with site location consultants
- Promoted Southeast Mississippi to state project managers

Project Manager

- Provided electric rate estimates and other utility data to prospective companies
- Coordinated company site visits and meetings with local officials
- Coordinated all aspects of project including incentives package, workforce needs, land acquisition, etc.

Community Development Representative

- Assisted existing industry with business retention efforts
- Provided economic development support to county and city governments

 Provided facilitation and administrative support for commissions, conventions, and major events

Georgia Department of Transportation

Senior Urban Planner/ Urban Planner II (09/02- 05/05)

Principal Planner for Atlanta 20 County Area

- Performed improvement studies on roads, bridges & interchanges
- Assisted county and city officials with plan development
- Coordinated/facilitated public meetings
- Prepared letters and responses on behalf of DOT Commissioner

Project Manager

- Managed operational study along I-75/85 in downtown Atlanta
- Managed review of major interstates/roadways in metro Atlanta
- Oversaw contract development, scope, schedule, budgets, invoice payments, and other aspects of projects
- Facilitated interagency coordination with City of Atlanta, local businesses, Federal Highway Administration, etc.

Community Involvement

- President American Association of Blacks in Energy, Gulf Coast Chapter
- Board Vice Chair Florida's Great Northwest Economic Development Organization
- Northwest Florida Director/Board Member Florida Economic Development Council
- Board Member Pensacola Downtown Rotary
- Board Member University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Foundation

Notable Honors

- Leadership Pensacola Class of 2017
- Distinguished Service Award 2014
- John C. Stennis Award of Merit 2012
- Leadership Lauderdale Class of 2011-2012
- Leadership Gulf Coast Class of 2010-11
- Mississippi Power Leadership Class of 2007-08
- Outstanding Georgia DOT Employee 2003-04
- USM Hall of Fame Inductee 2000
- Student Body President University of Southern Mississippi 1999-00
- Mr. USM 1999-00

References

Tommy Murphy
Vice President of Customer Service & Operations
Mississippi Power Company
(228)324-5140
tmurphy@southernco.com

Arnie Williams Area Manager Mississippi Power Company (228)861-5153 atwillia@southernco.com

Eddie Kelly Chief Administrative Officer City of Meridian, MS (601)678-7707 eddierkelly@yahoo.com

Larry Holt

Engaging, transformational, National Top 50 Economic Development executive with proven ability to translate and integrate the needs of governments, citizens, and businesses, attracting \$229 million in capital investment and creating 5,200 jobs in the last decade.

- Results-driven, collaborative change agent with proven ability to leverage best practices and improve key processes to deliver impactful economic development programs in multiple communities nationwide.
- Strategic, tech savvy professional with decades of experience in consultative sales and marketing, working closely with industry leaders in biotechnology, clean energy, and information technology.
- Direct experience implementing leading-edge FDI approaches created by The Brookings Institution.
- Highly skilled manager with outstanding ability to recruit, mentor and engage inclusive, peak-performing teams.
- Influential, authentic communicator who excels as a city or organizational ambassador, board liaison and public/private partnership leader.
- Valued for leadership, integrity, business acumen, accountability, and business ethics.

EXPERIENCE

CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER COLUMBIA RIVER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

1/2020 to Present

Recruited to lead organizational transformation, business development and private sector investor relations for the state of Washington's designated area development organization for Clark County, the fifth largest County in the state with 488,000 residents.

- As Chief Operating Officer and de facto CIO, provide administrative, technical, and financial leadership for an organization with an annual budget of \$1.2 million.
- Responsibility for cultivation of new private sector investment, drive investor engagement.
- Oversees the economic/workforce development team, and provides guidance for recruitment and business retention activities, as well as management of workforce programs.
- Directs Clark County's entrepreneurship initiatives and cluster-based approaches to business development.
- Critical policy responsibilities include oversight of the Land for Jobs program, a smart growth public policy initiative comprised of the commercial real estate/development community.

VICE PRESIDENT, BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GREATER PORTLAND, INC.

2/2016 to 1/2020

Transformed programs for a complex, 2-state public-private regional partnership covering 7 counties with 2.5M residents.

- Instrumental in attracting \$128M in commercial investment, generating 2,800 new jobs.
- Recognized by Consultant Connect as a 2019 Top 50 Economic Developer.
- Led 25 sales missions to Seattle, New York, Chicago, Atlanta, Dallas, and San Francisco; international outreach efforts at the SelectUSA Conference in Washington D.C. as well as FDI missions to Munich and Toronto.

- Served as Staff Lead for the Board-level Commercial Real Estate Advisory committee.
- Recruited National site selection consultants for 3 familiarization tours and created agendas to validate market data and provide local color.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THE CITY OF CEDAR PARK, TEXAS

6/2008 to 1/2016

Instrumental in driving economic growth in a growing suburb of Austin; led staff of 2 and department budget of \$900K.

- Closed 20 economic development projects totaling 857K sq. ft. of new office/industrial space. Attracted \$101 million in new investment, leading to the creation of 1,600 new jobs.
- Directly negotiated incentives to attract new businesses in aerospace, advanced manufacturing, I.T. and clean energy sectors.
- Led Cedar Park's investment and participation in the Opportunity Austin initiative, a \$20 million outreach campaign recognized as one of the most successful economic development programs in the U.S.
- Co-founded the Williamson County Economic Development Partnership to showcase unique assets and provide economic development staffing for the County and its unincorporated areas.
- Provided oversight for 2 high-profile, city-appointed economic development boards with a total of 12 board members.

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH & BUSINESS RETENTION BIRMINGHAM REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2/1999 to 6/2008

Directed authoritative, competitive demographic and economic research initiatives to attract and retain members. Managed 2 direct reports.

- Led 2 committees of 16 investors: Existing Business Team and Council of Economic Advisors.
- Developed cluster segmentation to prioritize outreach to prospective leaders by industry.
- Created a first-of-its-kind competitive analysis comparing Birmingham's economic and lifestyle advantages with 8 nearby southeastern cities.
- Identified the economic and demographic strengths of the region to attract business investment, performing cluster analysis to identify target companies for retention.
- Generated economic impact reports on significant Birmingham tourist events.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts, History & Philosophy UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA

Economic Development InstituteUNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

Leadership Development Programs PROJECT CORPORATE LEADERSHIP

LEANDER INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

CITY OF CEDAR PARK

SELECTED NONPROFIT BOARD SERVICE

Portland Innovation Quadrant Advisory Board Member (Oregon)

Music Portland (Oregon)

Youth Progress (Oregon)

Leander Educational Excellence Foundation | Leander Independent School District (Texas)

Birmingham Catalyst (Alabama)



JOHN A. O'TOOLE, CECD

Economic Developer/Community Leader

Award winning utility economic development professional – expertise in economic development, group facilitation, continuous process improvement, community outreach, strategic communications, community development, business expansion and retention, marketing and intergovernmental relations. Proven creative leadership at the municipal, regional and state levels. Recognized for successfully engaging stakeholders, building public private partnerships, developing broad support, leveraging resources, deal negotiating and delivering results.

EXPERIENCE

Beaufort County Economic Development Corporation 2017-Present, Beaufort, SC <u>Executive Director</u>

Hired to ignite economic development after decades of failed efforts. Responsible for focused goal setting, site development, site location assistance, marketing, domestic and international business recruitment, business retention and expansion, workforce development and deal making. Results driven - \$250 million in capital investments and 943 jobs announced – resulting in \$2 billion in economic impact. Facilitate the creation of new and better jobs and investment in Beaufort County. Provide white glove assistance to existing and new businesses in Beaufort County. Work closely with local, regional and state partners, both public and private, to deliver required resources to projects.

Eversource, 1999-2017, Hartford, CT

<u>Lead</u>, Eversource Community Relations and Economic Development <u>Manager</u>, CL&P/Yankee Gas Economic and Business Development

Responsible for community outreach and relationship development at the municipal, regional and state levels. Establish and maintain relationships with government, community and business leaders. Lead effort to adopt best practices for urban planning and economic development. Proactively manage all aspects of economic development, employee engagement, volunteerism, compliance and goal/results reporting. Guided programs that leverage corporate business strategies to stimulate economic growth. Manage budget and supervise staff at a Fortune 500 company.

Recognition

2017 Connecticut Economic Development Association "Presidents Award"

2015 International Economic Development Council "Gold Award - Best General-Purpose Print Brochure."

2010 Northeast Economic Development Association's "Developer or the Year" in Connecticut.

2006 Connecticut Economic Development Association "Member of the Year."

Town of Seymour, 1993-99, Seymour, CT

First Selectman (Strong Mayor) - Chief Elected Official

Elected to 3 consecutive terms.

Served as highest elected executive official. Set and managed annual operating budget of \$33 million. Responsible for day-to-day operations and oversaw the operations of all functions of town government. Successfully worked with organized labor resulting in six collective bargaining agreements. Innovative leadership catalyzed significant economic growth – industrial and commercial development and stabilization of town's bond ratings. Proactively worked with state and federal officials to secure funding that transformed brownfield sites and downtown; secured \$27 million in grants to support town projects; and initiated and oversaw \$50 million in infrastructure improvement projects.

LEADERSHIP ROLES

- Chairman, Connecticut Economic Resource Center
- Chairman, Connecticut Invention Convention
- Corporation Liaison, Connecticut Main Street Program
- Vice Chairman, Connecticut Convention and Sports Bureau
- Board of Directors, US Commerce Department District Export Council
- Board of Directors, Policy Chair Connecticut Economic Development Association
- Steering Committee, Central CT Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee
- Steering Committee, MetroHartford Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee
- Steering Committee, Central Connecticut Innovative Places Initiative
- Founding Chairman, Naugatuck Valley Brownfield Pilot Project
- Committee Member, MetroHartford's International Business Council
- Committee Member, Connecticut State University Business Plan Competition

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- Marlborough Board of Education, Past Member
- Marlborough Youth Athletic League, Past President
- Marlborough Youth Coach -- basketball, baseball, and soccer
- Boy Scouts of America Pack 39, Past Awards Chairman
- Hartford Public High School/Pathways Past Mentor
- Connecticut Start-up Weekend, Past Business Advisory Member and Host
- United Way Day of Caring Coordinator
- Home Front, Past Corporate Team Leader
- Eversource Hartford Marathon, Finish Line Volunteer
- Travelers Championship, 9th Hole Captain
- Connecticut Special Olympics Winter Games, Volunteer
- Hartford Veteran's Day Parade, Coordinator

EDUCATION

University of New Haven, West Haven, CT

Executive Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Oklahoma University, Oklahoma City, OK

 <u>Certificate in Economic Development</u>; Workforce, Tech Led Development, Business Retention, Real Estate and Finance

International Economic Development Council, Washington, DC

Certified Economic Developer (CEcD)

University of Connecticut, Hartford, CT

Financial Excellence Program; Accounting and Finance

Northwestern University, Kellogg School of Management, Evanston, IL

 <u>Executive Certificate Programs</u>; Strategic Marketing, Advanced Leadership, Strategic Networking and Strategic Partnering

BOB SHARK, MS, MBA

TOP PRODUCING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EXECUTIVE

Driving Results | Expanding Markets | Accelerating Growth

A trusted leader who designs, oversees, and executes strategy to deliver high impact results in economic development. Expert at identifying market needs for creating a supportive environment for business attraction, expansion, and start-up. Skilled at engaging all levels of internal and external stakeholders to generate collaboration and accomplish maximum results. Adept at promoting regions and organizations using a variety of channels.

SELECTED ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Organizational Leadership & Management

- Collaborated with various stakeholders to develop and execute organizational strategic plans, and in comprehensive planning efforts for Fay-Penn, Fayette County and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission.
- Initiated numerous economic development programs related to business attraction, expansion, and start-up.
- Re-organized Fay-Penn into a flat structure from a "stovepipe" model to improve interaction and to empower staff as leaders in their respective areas.

DEMONSTRATED PROFICIENCIES

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

STAFF MANAGEMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

POLICY DEVELOPMENT

MARKET NEEDS ASSESSMENT

MARKETING AND SALES

STRATEGIC PLANNING/EXECUTION

BUSINESS NETWORKING

PUBLIC RELATIONS

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

EXECUTIVE PRESENTATIONS

PUBLIC SPEAKING

PRODUCT MANAGEMENT

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

TECHNICAL & CREATIVE WRITING

Economic Development

- Headed a team of 12 staff, 18 board directors, 130 business organization members, and over 50 partner organizations in growing the Fayette County economy. Strong partnerships exist with complementary economic development organizations (e.g., PRA, SPC, SBDC, USDA, WIB, Chambers), commercial lenders, PA DCED, elected officials, educational institutions, etc.
- Developed **marketing and branding initiatives** based on industry analysis and benchmarking other successful programs, and collaborate primarily with the PRA and commercial brokers on site selection.
- Conducted site "fam" tours for national and international groups, and delivered regional promotional presentations in the US, England, France, and China.
- Defined important metrics and designed a tracking system to facilitate board reporting.
- Developed and implemented various COVID-19 pandemic business support programs.

Board Support & Leadership

- Supported board effectiveness with pro-active news communications, agenda development, board director identification and recruitment, and participation on board committees (e.g., loan review, finance, real estate, etc.).
- With CFO, co-led annual **budgeting** and operational planning.

Public Relations & Marketing

 Served as the public face of organizations in a variety of capacities, including executive and training presentations, partner meetings, public events, media relations, and government relations.

- Initiated and directed development of, and often personally created, marketing programs and collateral to promote regional economic development.
- Developed a business network with high-level officers within various organizations and groups, including government agencies, business and industry, education, and business and economic development organizations.

HISTORY HIGHLIGHTS

<u>Fay-Penn Economic Development Council</u> (Jul 2014-Present, Lemont Furnace, PA) The pre-eminent, "1st stop shop" economic development agency in Fayette County, PA that provides second-to-none services to create a supportive environment for business.

Executive Director

- Through 2020, oversaw 120+ unique projects (attractions, expansions, start-ups) resulting in over 3000 jobs and over \$70 million in new investment in a rural, poverty-stricken county of 130,000 residents.
- Completed construction of Phase I of the Dunbar Township Business Park when existing business park space became scarce. Completed construction of a 100,000 sf speculative building to attract businesses.
- Conceived and developed a unique state-of-the-science 70-person capacity Business Event Center for free public business use, and a 6,000 sf shared working space business accelerator – "Fayette LaunchBox" – in conjunction with Penn State University as the focal point for developing a local entrepreneurial ecosystem.
- Landed the top scoring medical marijuana processing facility in the Fay-Penn University Business Park, with an anticipated creation of 45 jobs and an investment of over \$25 million.
- Redesigned all Fay-Penn marketing collateral, including a new website, to focus on county and regional business amenities. Created an online business resource directory, invigorated social media campaigns, and launched the "Fayette Connection" video series.
- Initiated novel programming, including an annual expo for connecting businesses with support resources ("GrowBiz"), training the next generation of leaders via a 9-month cohort experience ("Fayette Leaders Academy"), coordinating local manufacturers ("Manufacturer Consortium"), and systematically, proactively reaching out to businesses (now integrated with the PA Engage! program).
- Established the Orville and Ruth Eberly Workforce Fund to provide a permanent endowment that supports scholarships for post-secondary students entering trade professions. Over \$55,000 in scholarships has supported 114 students to date.

<u>Johnstown Area Regional Industries</u> (Oct 2001-Jul 2014, Johnstown, PA) A regional economic developer that provides services to assist businesses to compete in the global economy.

Vice President | Procurement Technical Assistance Program Manager

- Conducted over 250 clients through government business capture and contract performance. Clients reported over \$850 million in contract wins over four years.
- Interfaced with contracting officers, exceeded metric goals, launched unique initiatives, mentored staff, and authored winning proposals to ensure successful program continuation. Garnered \$1.5 million in funding awards, representing 30% of the total JARI organizational budget.

- Collaborated with Pennsylvania state officials to attract foreign investment to the region's exemplary defense industry cluster. Interacted with representatives from Belgium, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Norway, and the United Kingdom, among others.
- Attracted EB-5 investment from China.

Director, Technology Development

- Bootstrapped three new programs to grow emerging technology businesses. Serviced over 40 clients with business start-up technical assistance, microgrants, business plan competitions, internships, entrepreneurial promotion, and over \$2 million in tax credits.
- Played a key role in attracting Gamesa, a Spanish wind energy company, to site its first U.S. production facility resulting in \$60 million invested and 220+ new manufacturing jobs.

Concurrent Technologies Corporation (Feb 1997–Oct 2001, Johnstown, PA) An applied scientific research and development professional services organization with over 25 locations, 1400 employees, and \$300 million annual revenues.

Program Manager

• Directed a team of over 20 IT developers in a multi-year, multi-stakeholder program to implement the *CareerLink* workforce development web system in PA, MD, VA, and WV. Generated \$2.6 million in follow-on business over an 18 month period from a \$500K initial project.

Senior Staff Specialist

- Designed a strategy to market and implement e-commerce outreach, training, and technical support services in PA, MD, and WV. Expanded client metrics 20% in one year.
- Managed and/or supported numerous programs and projects in logistics, pollution prevention, intranet deployment, internal ISO auditing, Y2K compliance, and e-commerce.

GRC International (Jun 1993–Feb 1997 and Jan 1990-Apr 1992, Vienna, VA) An information technology, engineering and consulting firm providing information systems, technology development, multimedia training, telecommunications, and decision-support products and services.

Product & Sales Manager, FLOW GEMINI™ EH&S Products

Launched an industrial environmental compliance software system. Led user focus groups, developed
alliances with complementary vendors, wrote software specifications and documentation, developed
marketing collateral, and sold approximately \$1 million in corporate licenses to industry leaders such
as Columbia Gas, Eaton, Texas Instruments, and Lyondell Petrochemical.

Radian International (Apr 1992-Jun 1993, Herndon, VA) An engineering, consulting, and construction firm providing engineering, design, chemical and pollution management, and environmental, health, safety, and remediation services.

Senior Scientist

- Developed an automated system for performing multi-layered calculations to manipulate voluminous analytical data from air emissions analyses. Eradicated manual errors, allowed "what if" scenarios, and virtually eliminated data processing time. Received a commendation and special compensation.
- Provided technical support to numerous programs and projects in pollution engineering.

Norfolk Southern Corporation (Aug 1986-Jan 1990, Alexandria, VA) A premier transportation company operating over 20,000 railroad route miles in 22 states and the District of Columbia.

Senior Chemist

 Designed a corporate OSHA "Right-to-Know" program covering 20,000 employees. Received a commendation and special compensation.

Chemist

• Performed chemical and physical investigations of indoor air quality, raw materials, damaged railroad shipments, and hazardous characteristics of solid wastes.

Northern Virginia Community College (Sep 1982 - Apr 1989 concurrent with full-time positions, Alexandria, VA) The largest educational institution in Virginia and the fifth largest community college in the United States.

Adjunct Chemistry Faculty

 Composed and delivered general chemistry, organic chemistry, and biochemistry lectures and laboratory exercises.

<u>Virginia Department of Forensic Science</u> (Sep 1980-Aug 1986, Merrifield, VA and Richmond, VA). A nationally accredited forensic laboratory system that analyzes evidence recovered from crime scenes, interprets results, and provides expert testimony.

Drug Laboratory Supervisor

- Created a hypergeometric distribution based statistical sampling technique for illicit drug analysis.
- Directed workflow and managed a staff of six chemists.

Forensic Chemist

- Performed chemistry research and published two articles in the Journal of Forensic Sciences.
- Analyzed drug, general chemical, and arson evidence and defended results as an expert witness in court.

EDUCATION

MBA

MS, Forensic Chemistry

BS, Natural Science

1999, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA

1980, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

1979, University of Pittsburgh, Johnstown, PA



Troy L. Wayman, CEcD Economic Development Leadership

Objective

To utilize my extensive economic development experience, training, and skills to lead a world-class organization in realization of its fullest potential. To work with stakeholders, community leaders, elected officials, and clients to affect positive economic and quality of life change in a community through the creation and preservation of jobs.

Skills

Leadership, job creation, financial stewardship/management, marketing, relationship building, consensus building, strategic planning, visioning,

Experience

President and CEO • One Acadiana • February 2018 – Present

Responsible for the full operations of a 9 Parish regional economic development organization with a staff of 12. The organization is responsible for governmental affairs, public policy, business development, business retention and expansion, membership and investor relations, and other advocacy issues for the entire Acadiana region.

Under my leadership, responsible for creation of 2400 new jobs, over \$440 million in new capital investment, and \$117 million in new annual payroll across the 9-parish region.

Vice President, Economic Development • Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce • January 2009 – February 2018

Responsible for management of economic development department with a staff of ten. The department consists of International Trade Division, Workforce Development Division, Research Division, Business retention and Expansion Division, Recruitment Division and administrative. Responsible for external affairs/networking and relationship building with project multipliers including, state agencies, utilities, and consultants. Responsible for working relationships with state and local governmental entities including, county commission, city council and other elected officials. Responsible for complete budgeting and marketing decisions as well as representing Mobile at various economic development conferences, event-based marketing opportunities and educational seminars. Responsible for speaking engagements, media coverage, and various other tasks.

Under my leadership, responsible for the creation of over 8000 jobs and nearly \$3 Billion in capital investment for the Mobile area.

Director, Corporate Development and Recruitment • Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce • August 2004 – January 2009

Responsible for industrial and commercial recruiting efforts including complete project management. Responsible for external



affairs/networking and relationship building with project multipliers including, state agencies, utilities, and consultants. Responsible for working relationships with state and local governmental entities including, county commission, city council and other elected officials. Responsible for budgeting and marketing decisions as well as representing Montgomery at various economic development conferences, event-based marketing opportunities and educational seminars. Responsible for speaking engagements, media coverage, and various other tasks.

My project management at the Montgomery chamber resulted in over 3,000 jobs and well over 1 billion in capital investment.

Manager, Business Development • JESCO, Inc. A Yates Company • June 2001 – August 2004

Responsible for production of proposals and presentations, including research and delivery, for the purpose of new client development and retention. Responsible for relationship marketing. Responsible for budgeting and marketing decisions as well as representing JESCO at various economic development conferences, event-based marketing opportunities and tradeshows. Primarily responsible for Alabama, but also handled the Florida panhandle and other areas as projects dictated.

Director, Industrial Affairs • Montgomery Area Chamber of Commerce • January 1996 – June 2001

Responsible for production of proposals in recruitment activities as well as complete project management. Responsible for relationship Marketing. Responsible for retention and expansion efforts for existing industry in the Montgomery, Elmore, and Autauga County area. Responsible for budgeting and marketing decisions as well as representing Montgomery at various economic development conferences, event-based marketing opportunities and educational seminars. Responsible for Montgomery's Industrial Affairs Steering



Committee made up of local manufacturing and industrial professionals. Responsible for Montgomery's Workforce Development/Education Task Force.

Career Related Education and Certifications

- Certified Economic Developer (CED/CEcD)
 International Economic Development Council
- Economic Development Basic Course Georgia Tech
- Economic Development Institute
 University of Oklahoma Department of Continuing Education
- Certified Travel Industry Specialist (CTIS), American Bus Association
 Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis

Career Related Professional Associations

- Louisiana Industrial Development Executives Association
- Southern Economic Development Council
- International Economic Development Council
- IAMC
- ACCE
- REGIONAL ECONOMIC ALLIANCE OF LOUISIANA (REAL), CHAIRMAN 2021

Career Related Committees and Boards

Acadiana Planning Commission (APC)



- Southwest Alabama Workforce Develoment Council, Past President
- Coastal recovery Commission, Economic Development Subcommittee
- Economic Development Association of Alabama, Past President
- Assistant Secretary, Mobile Industrial Development Board and Industrial Development Authority
- Montgomery County Strategic Plan Committee, 2005
- Chairman, EDAA Summer Conference Committee, 2004
- Envision 2020 Economic Development Task Force Member, 2002
- Chairman, EDAA Winter Conference Committee, 1998
- Board member, Goodwill Easter Seals of the Gulf Coast



References

Mr. Richard Zuschlag Chairman & CEO Acadiana Companies 130 E. Kaliste Saloom Road Lafayette, LA 70508 (337) 291-3302

rzuschlag@acadian.com

Mr. Edward "EJ" Krampe President/CEO MacLaff, Inc. 106 Oak Way Lane Lafayette, Louisiana 70506 (337)981-4800 ejkrampe@maclaff.com

Mr. Greg Barker
President
Economic Development Partnership of Alabama
1320 1st Avenue South
Birmingham, Alabama 35233
(205)527-3429
gbarker@edpa.org

MANDI D. MITCHELL, CECD

JULY 14, 2021

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
LAFAYETTE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
211 EAST DEVALCOURT
LAFAYETTE, LA 70506

Dear Chairman Guidroz and Members of the LEDA Board of Commissioners:

I am pleased to submit my resume to you for the position of LEDA President and Chief Executive Officer. With a strong track record in economic development, governmental affairs, community relations, and community service, I am confident that I'm the ideal candidate for this position. I am an IEDC Certified Economic Developer trained through the Oklahoma University Economic Development Institute and I've worked alongside the best, most seasoned economic development executives in Louisiana and the U.S. Our State has achieved record levels of notable economic development wins and rankings, and I've played an integral role in that success as part of the LED executive team for nine years. I am seeking to leverage my knowledge and experiences and translate those into continued growth and stability for Lafayette Parish.

My greatest strengths match those most essential to the continued success of LEDA:

- Strong knowledge and experience in the "bread and butter" facets of economic development: business retention & expansion, business recruitment, workforce development, and small business & entrepreneurial services;
- Big picture thinker while also being a results-driven problem solver, strategic thinker and optimizer;
- Proven ability to work with elected and appointed government officials, able to navigate through government processes at all levels;
- Team player with existing, positive relationships with key local and state partners in government, higher education & workforce development, business & industry, and transportation, planning & development;
- Strong bond with the Lafayette community and in-depth knowledge of the community's many unique strengths making it an easy endeavor for me to lead on promoting the Parish.

I have a vested interest in the economic growth and overall health of the Lafayette Parish community. I am a Lafayette native with family roots from nearby Acadia Parish (Duplechain and Chachere) and I have a daughter who I'd like to see decide two decades from now that her future is here at home.

Please see my resume for greater detail on my experience, education, certifications, and community and civic engagements.

Sincerely,

Mandi Danielle Mitchell

MANDI D. MITCHELL, CECD

EXECUTIVE LEADER

Collaboration | Economic & Business Development | Government Relations

A dynamic economic development leader driven by proficiency in business retention, expansion, and recruitment, small business and entrepreneurial services, strategic planning, negotiation, collaboration, and effective communication. Experienced Certified Economic Developer with a Master of Business Administration and over 17 years of governmental affairs expertise at the state and local level including lobbying the Louisiana State Legislature and engaging parish and municipal governments.

Strengths Include:

Relationship Builder | Strategist | Certified Economic Developer | Civic Engagement | Public Relations |
Effective Communicator | Team Leader | Governmental Affairs | Results-Driven Problem Solver | Public Policy

KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Earned the designation of Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) through the International Economic Development Council.
- Served as project manager for the Amazon Fulfilment Center in Carencro (500 FT jobs/\$100MM CapEx) and serving as state resources lead liaison for Amazon projects in Baton Rouge (Cortana Mall redevelopment), Slidell, and Shreveport, Louisiana.
- At the request of the governor's office, served as lead on the creation of the Louisiana Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, which included drafting the enabling legislation, managing the legislative process to successful passage, identifying and recruiting a diverse group of small business owners statewide, leading policy discussions of the group and development of the annual LSBEC Report to the Legislature.
- Served as lead project manager for the creation of Governor Edwards' 2019 signature program the Veterans First Business Initiative from managing the legislation through successful final passage to program implementation.
- LED Secretary's Designee to the Louisiana Economic Development Corporation (LEDC) a state board with oversight of the LED Small Business Loan Guaranty Program and the Economic Development Award Program, which respectively provide much-needed access to capital for small business ventures and infrastructure funding support for worthy economic development projects.
- Achieved extensive policy reforms of LED's highest volume incentive programs based upon best practices from the Pew Research Center and other relevant policy organizations: Quality Jobs Tax Rebate, Enterprise Zones Tax Credit, Research & Development Tax Credit, and the Motion Picture Tax Credit.
- Louisiana Opportunity Zones subject matter expert; oversaw the State's selection process, including extensive outreach and interaction with local officials, which led to the successful submission of 150 census tracts for the program.
- Member and co-chair of the Workforce & Economic Development Committee of the Louisiana Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Advisory Council, an entity created by the Legislature to engage the State's HBCUs as strategic development partners.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Louisiana Economic Development (LED), Baton Rouge, LA

Assistant Secretary

Jul 2015 – Present

- Leading the department's local, state, and federal governmental affairs activities.
- Serving as the department's leader of external affairs, lead strategist for issues management, and lead liaison and point-of-contact to the governor's office, other state agencies, local and federal governmental and quasi-governmental agencies, and external business and trade associations.
- Leader of a team of 14 senior directors, managers, and support staff including the following LED teams: State Economic Competitiveness, Small Business Services, and Community Competitiveness.
- Providing intergovernmental, political, and policy support for LED's Office of Business Development teams including the Business Expansion & Retention Group and the Business Development/Recruitment teams.
- Serving as LED Secretary's designee on the Louisiana Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, the Louisiana Economic Development Corporation, the HBCU Advisory Council, and leading on policy support for the Louisiana Board of Commerce & Industry.

Director of Governmental Affairs and Federal Programs

Jan 2015 – Jul 2015

- Led the department's local, state, and federal governmental affairs activities.
- Served as LED's congressional and state Legislative liaison.
- Served as LED's representative on transportation and port-related issues and as LED's liaison to the Ports Association of Louisiana (PAL) and provided oversight of the Port Investor and Import-Export Tax Credit Programs.
- Served as LED Secretary's designee on the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority and the Louisiana Water Resources Commission.

Director of Governmental Affairs

Nov 2012 – Dec 2014

- Led local and state governmental affairs and served as LED's liaison to the Legislature and local elected officials.
- Managed and coordinated all activities associated with LED's legislative package.
- Monitored and coordinated appropriate responses to all policy issues related to economic development programs and incentives.
- Coordinated LED's annual Washington, D.C., economic development mission trip (Washington Mardi Gras).

Mandi D. Mitchell, LLC, Lafayette, LA

Owner/Consultant Mar 2009 – Nov 2012

- Sampling of clients: the Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Acadiana, City of Carencro, the Alliance for Children and Families in Louisiana and subcontractor for Harris, DeVille & Associates and Southern Strategy Group (see details below).
- Managed business development services with a focus on helping businesses grow through strategic planning and relationship management.
- Offered governmental affairs and lobbying services through representation at the Louisiana State Legislature, parish and municipal governments, and other political subdivisions.
- Provided state government navigator services and federal non-profit 501c3 application process assistance.
- Provided community relations consulting on establishing and/or improving client's brand through strategic community outreach.

Harris, DeVille & Associates, Statewide

Subcontractor on the Louisiana Oil & Natural Gas Book special project

Jun 2012 – Oct 2012

• Planned, coordinated, and delivered a statewide educational and outreach program on the contributions of the oil and natural gas industries to the Louisiana economy for the benefit of elected parish and municipal officials.

Subcontractor for the Louisiana REALTORS Real Estate Transfer Tax Campaign

Ian 2011 – Nov 2011

- Served as Statewide Outreach Director on the campaign for successful passage of Constitutional Amendment No. 1 on the November 2011 ballot (prohibition on real estate transfer taxes) on behalf of the Louisiana REALTORS Association.
- Planned, coordinated, and conducted statewide education and outreach sessions on the amendment for realtors and the general public.
- Lobbied the Louisiana Legislature during the 2011 Legislative Session and helped secure unanimous passage of Act 425.
- Secured resolutions of support for Constitutional Amendment No. 1 from chambers of commerce statewide.

Southern Strategy Group, Baton Rouge, LA

Subcontractor: 2010 and 2011 Louisiana Legislative Sessions

2010 & 2011

- Advanced higher education issues: LA GRAD Act (Act 741), Regents' and management boards powers, duties, and functions clarification bill (Act 447), and a study resolution on improving the graduation rate calculation (HCR 165).
- Campaigned for the expansion of the Nurse Family Partnership-Louisiana Home Visiting Campaign program and assisted with planning and implementation of NFP Day at the Legislature.

AT&T Louisiana (formerly BellSouth Telecommunications), Lafayette/Lake Charles, LA

Regional Manager, External Affairs covering 15 parishes

Jul 2004 – Feb 2009

- Functioned as a territory CEO by leveraging company resources accountable for public policy matters that impacted network operations, sales, directory distribution, and broadband and wireless communications services.
- Provided corporate support to economic development entities throughout the region via financial support, serving as a professional resource, and by participating with public and private sector entities to attract new businesses and promote expansion of existing industries.
- Conducted municipal franchise negotiations on telephone/television services, right-of-way, broadband, and wireless coverage resolutions.
- Interfaced with state representatives and senators as a registered lobbyist representing AT&T and its subsidiaries.
- Served as AT&T Foundation liaison for SWLA region, which included encouraging community participation in grants process, providing support to non-profit agencies on foundation grant criteria, and planning/coordinating press conferences to announce grant awards.
- Managed charitable contributions and sponsorships budget; provided corporate support to educational programs such as teacher minigrants program for public elementary/secondary schools.
- Built and maintained fundamental relationships with universities and community/technical colleges.
- Represented AT&T throughout the community through memberships and leadership roles within key community organizations, e.g. Rotary Club, Chambers of Commerce, United Way.
- Performed continuous strategic development of a public relations program, which resulted in positive public opinion.

BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc., New Orleans, LA

Switch Capacity Manager

Jul 2000 – Jul 2004

- Analyzed forecasts of customer service demands and engineered network elements, and managed projects to ensure time, cost and quality constraints were on target.
- Established budgetary requirements and account allocations to support the addition of new services, features, and switching equipment; managed budgets ranging from \$2.5K to \$3.8M.
- Supported interdepartmental workflow to ensure smooth deployment of switch capacity and switching features.
- Facilitated Navigating Our Changing Seas Training Sessions for Management and Non-management Employees in LA, conveying the key messages of the paradigm shift taking place in the telecom industry.

- Coordinated NT to AD Server Migration of 200 PCs for Louisiana Capacity Management and Infrastructure Planning Departments.
- Served as the Local User Coordinator (in-house departmental PC support person).
- Created technical job aids for SCM workgroup and served as team Energy Champion (corporate environmental program).

United States Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans, LA

Electrical Engineering Co Op/Intern

Jun 1998 – Jun 2000

- Reviewed project plans and specifications and performed cost estimation for equipment purchases.
- Conducted site visits to verify pumping station and lock conditions and collected data and information for written reports.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- Ochsner Health System Board of Directors, Member 2020-present
- Louisiana HBCU Advisory Council, Member and Workforce/Economic Development Co-Chair, 2018 present
- Lafayette Public Innovation Authority, Trustee, 2018-2020
- Louisiana Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council, LED Secretary's Designee, 2019 present
- Louisiana Economic Development Corporation, LED Secretary's Designee, 2015 present
- Lafayette General Health System, Board Member, 2012 2020
- Lafayette General Medical Center Members Corporation, Member, 2010 2016
- Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce, Appointed Board Member, 2010 2012; Education Division, Co-Chair, 2011; Public Policy Division, Member, 2009-2012
- the 705 (Acadiana's young professionals' organization), Board Member and Civic Committee Chair, 2010 2011, Member, 2009 2018
- Performing Arts Society of Acadiana, Board Member, 2008 2010
- Chamber/SWLA Board Member, 2006 2009 and 2007/2008 Chair of Government Affairs Committee leading the chamber's contribution towards the Driving Louisiana Forward initiative, the Louisiana Ethics Coalition, and the Coalition to Insure Louisiana efforts
- United Way of Southwest Louisiana, Board Member, 2007 2009
- United Way of Southwest Louisiana Campaign Cabinet, Vice-Chair Major Commerce Division, 2007 2009
- SWLA Center for Health Services (FQHC), Board Member, 2006 present; Chair of Strategic Planning Committee, 2016 present; Vice Chair, 2019 present
- SOWELA Technical Community College Foundation, Board Member, 2004 2006
- Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Member, 1997 present

EDUCATION

Oklahoma University, Economic Development Institute

2018

University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

Master of Business Administration - GPA 4.0

University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA

2000

Bachelor of Science, Electrical Engineering - GPA 3.23

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS & RECOGNITION

- 2017 Innovation Champion award recipient from the SBIR Coalition for efforts to revitalize the Research & Development Tax Credit
- 2016 recognition by the Louisiana Industrial Development Executives Association (LIDEA) for outstanding legislative accomplishments
- 2016 Acadiana 20 Under 40 honoree
- 2015 Cover Story of FACE Magazine of Acadiana
- 2012 ABiz "Women Who Mean Business" Award Recipient
- 2012 Acadiana Business Hall of Fame Richard E. Baudoin, Jr. "Friend of Business" Award
- 2008 AT&T Service Excellence Award Recognized for significant contributions towards Hurricanes Gustav and Ike recovery efforts
- 2008 AT&T BRAVO Award Recognized for excellence in lobbying efforts in passage of the Consumer Choice for Television Act
- 2008 Calcasieu Parish MLK Coalition Community Service Impact Award
- Leadership Louisiana Graduate, November 2005
- Chamber SWLA/Leadership Southwest Graduate, May 2005