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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: Friday, December 11, 2015
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WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS HONORED AT STATE CONFERENCE AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

*The Workforce Solutions Board of Directors Also Named
Its New Slate of Officers for 2016*

McAllen, TX – Workforce Solutions (WFS) was recognized for outstanding board performance at the Texas Workforce Commission’s (TWC) 19th Annual Texas Workforce Conference in Dallas, TX. In total WFS took home \$160,000 in awards from TWC. The awards include two \$30,000 top performance awards for Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Adult and Dislocated Worker Training-Related Employment and WIA Youth Preparedness. WFS was the recipient of the \$100,000 award for Youth Inspiration and Career Awareness for initiatives focused on supporting the exploration of careers for young people.

The Employer of Excellence Award went to Teletech in McAllen, TX as an employer that, as a customer and collaborator with WFS, created innovative approaches that impact local economy. Through the partnership with WFS, Teletech has hired approximately 500 employees.

“Each year, we recognize exceptional Texas employers for their investments in our state and share their achievements reached through strong workforce partnerships with local workforce boards and other stakeholders,” said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar. “It is our hope that these success stories may serve to inspire new achievements next year. I commend and thank these outstanding employers and workforce professionals for their leadership and contributions to their region.”

On December 9th, the WFS Board of Directors held its last meeting of the year to review the work done in 2015 and set goals for 2016. On the agenda was the selection of new board officers. The 2016 officers voted in were: Mr. Jaime Ortiz, Chair; Dr. Ricardo R. Gonzalez, Vice-Chair; Ms. Dalinda Guillen, Treasurer; and Mr. George Solis, Secretary.

WFS recognized the outstanding service of Mr. Brent Baldree, Mr. Noel Benavides, Mr. Ramiro Garza, Mr. Gene Hanson and Mr. Exiquio Saenz whose terms on the Board of Directors came to a close in the end of December 2015. WFS thanks each of these outgoing board members for their longstanding commitment to building a strong and efficient organization. Their dedication to WFS, the mission, the programs, and the customers we serve will not be forgotten.

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Pictured (L to R): Francisco Almaraz, WFS Chief Executive Officer; Gene Hanson, WFS Board Member; Dr. Ricardo R. Gonzalez, WFS Board Vice-Chair; Noel Benavides Sr., WFS Board Member; Ricardo Acevedo, WFS Board Member; Sara Garza, WFS Board Member; Jaime Ortiz, WFS Board Chair; Federico "Fred" Lopez, Board Member; Dr. Carlos J. Cardenas, WFS Board Member; and Judge George Solis, WFS Board Secretary

Workforce Solutions

Workforce Solutions (WFS), under the direction of the [Texas Workforce Commission](#) (TWC), is one of 28 local workforce boards located throughout the state. This workforce board services Hidalgo, Starr, and Willacy counties. The primary goal of TWC and the 28 workforce boards is to respond to needs of Texas employers and workers through locally designed market-driven workforce development initiatives and services. All employers, workers, and job seekers are encouraged to take advantage of these services. To learn more about the programs and services WFS has to offer, please call (877) 687-1121 or visit WFSolutions.org.

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