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IEDC Adopts Code of Ethics for Economic Development Professionals

WASHINGTON, DC (March 10, 2011) –The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is announcing its adoption of a code of ethics for economic development professionals, effective January 1, 2011, to strengthen the economic development profession and its practice worldwide.

The field of economic development has grown considerably in size and professionalism over the past several decades. The IEDC board of directors sees the development of a formal code of conduct as essential

"Implementing a strong ethics culture enhances the profession's reputation and status," said Bill Best, Immediate Past Chair of the IEDC, and chair of the newly created Committee on Professional Conduct. "Economic developers will not only know the expectations and guidance of a professional code of conduct but also IEDC's commitment to values for its members."

The code of ethics is accompanied by a set of enforcement policies that govern review of alleged relations brought to the attention of IEDC, as well as sanction that may be imposed if proven guilty. The code of ethics and the enforcement policies went into effect on January 1, 2011.

A strong training component is accompanying the enforcement of the code of ethics to educate IEDC members about the importance of ethics in economic development, how to deal with ethical dilemmas, and how to promote an ethical culture in an organization. Training is being offered at IEDC conferences, select training courses, as well as through accredited education partners.

A Committee on Professional Conduct (CPC) has been created to maintain and enforce the code of ethics. Committee members include:

- William Best, Senior Vice President, Community Development Banking for PNC Bank, East Brunswick, NJ, and Immediate Past Chair of IEDC
- Jay Moon, CECD, President & CEO of the Mississippi Manufacturers Association, Jackson, MS, and Current Vice Chair of IEDC
- Kurt Chilcott, CECD, President & CEO of CDC Small Business Finance Corp., San Diego, CA, and Past IEDC Chair
- Tedra Cheatham, CECD, COO & Vice President, Economic Development at the Greater North Fulton Chamber of Commerce, Alpharetta, GA
- Barbara Johnson, Principal of The Johnson Group, New Orleans, LA

In order to download a copy of the code of ethics and enforcement policies, [please click here](#) (PDF).

The International Economic Development Council (IEDC) is the premier membership organization dedicated to helping economic development professionals create high-quality jobs, develop vibrant communities and improve the quality of life in their regions. Serving more than 4,500 members, IEDC represents the largest network of economic development professionals in the world. IEDC provides a diverse range of services, including conferences, certification, professional development, publications, research, advisory services and legislative tracking.

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