



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Subject: Six Georgia leaders were given the Turknett Leadership Character Award at the sixth annual event held February 16th in Atlanta. Coach Bill Curry spoke to the crowd of 340.

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Winners Honored at 6th Annual Turknett Leadership Character Awards

Turknett Leadership Group announced the recipients of its sixth annual Leadership Character Awards at a luncheon on Monday, February 16th at the Grand Hyatt in Buckhead. **Coach Bill Curry** of Georgia State University wowed the almost 340 attendees with his inspiring keynote on the impact and value of leadership.

KPMG was again the Presenting Sponsor for the awards, and Crawford & Company returned as a Gold Sponsor. The awards are presented by Turknett Leadership Group in partnership with Kennesaw State's Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics and Character. This year's recipients:

CEO/President/Managing Partner Category – **Philip W. Tomlinson**, TSYS
Executive/Manager Category – **Luz Borrero**, City of Atlanta
Nonprofit Category – **Jack Shipkoski**, American Cancer Society
Education Category – **Martha T. Nesbitt, Ph.D.**, Gainesville State College
Inspirator Category – **Nellie D. Duke**, Georgia Women's Institute & GA Commission on Women
Special Award – **Michael Petrik**, Alston & Bird, LLP

A four person advisory group consisting of **Oz Nelson**, retired chairman and CEO of UPS, **Conchita Robinson**, president and CEO of C Robinson Associates, Inc., **Dr. Betty Siegel**, president-emeritus of Kennesaw State University and **W. Thomas Smith**, Founder and Managing Partner of Total Technology Ventures selected the winners from more than 44 individuals nominated. They also took the stage as presenters for the awards at the Grand Hyatt hotel.

While current news stories point to the vital role of character in business, for six years the Turknett Leadership Character Awards have recognized individuals and companies who demonstrate character in leadership: high levels of integrity; relating to employees, customers, suppliers, and others with respect; and maintaining a culture in which everyone takes responsibility for achieving results while upholding the organization's core values.

The Siegel Institute (www.kennesaw.edu/siegelinstitute), an academically based institute at Kennesaw State University, seeks to inspire, enable and promote ethical conduct, decision-making and leadership for the common good.

KPMG LLP, the audit, tax and advisory firm (www.us.kpmg.com) is the U.S. member firm of KPMG International. KPMG International's member firms have 137,000 professionals, including more than 7,600 partners, in 144 countries. KPMG has more than 800 employees here in Atlanta.

Crawford & Company (www.crawfordandcompany.com) is the world's largest provider of claims solutions with over 700 locations in 63 countries.

Turknett Leadership Group (www.turknett.com) is a management consulting firm based in Atlanta that has assessed and developed high level leaders and their organizations throughout the U.S. for more than 20 years. Using sophisticated assessment tools and Leadership coaching, the Turknett professional staff combines psychologist expertise in the behavioral sciences, and practical business and executive management experience.