

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 15, 2010



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Subject: Top Georgia leaders in business, non-profit and education have been nominated for the 7th annual Turknett Leadership Character Awards. The awards presentation, co-hosted by the Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics and Character at Kennesaw State University, is open to the public and will be held February 23rd at the Georgia Aquarium from 12 – 2p.m.

Nominees Are In for 7th Annual Turknett Leadership Character Awards

Fifty nominations of top Georgia leaders for the 2009-2010 Turknett Leadership Character Awards are being reviewed by a distinguished advisory board and top awards in each category will be announced February 23rd at a luncheon at the Georgia Aquarium.

The four person advisory group consists 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.

Nominees in the CEO/President/Managing Partner Category include: **Russell D. Crosson**, Ronald Blue & Co., LLC; **Tricia Dempsey**, Agile; **Harris Fogel**, Quofore; **Ron Garmon**, Vuelogic; **David Geller**, GV Financial Advisors; **Randy Hain**, Bell Oaks Executive Search; **Martha Hayhurst**, Harry Norman Realtors; **Dave McMullen**, redpepper; **Claudia Patton**, Edelman; **Doug Ross**, Synergis; **Sylvia Russell**, AT&T; **Brian Schmitt**, The PrivateBank and Trust Co; **Guy Thomson**, Proof of the Pudding/Pittypat's Porch.

Outstanding nominees were also named for the Executive/Manager, Non-Profit, Education and Inspiritor Categories The complete list of nominees is at www.leadershipcharacter.com. Crawford & Company is the Gold Sponsor of this year's award, and the Silver Sponsor is KPMG. The awards are presented annually by Turknett Leadership Group in partnership with Kennesaw State's Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics and Character. All the nominees and award-winners will be recognized at a luncheon ceremony February 23, 2010 from 12 – 2pm. For information and event registration go to www.acteva.com/go/turknett.

The Leadership Character Awards recognize the correlation between an organization's ability to achieve and the character of its leadership. Nominated individuals and companies demonstrate integrity; relate to customers, suppliers, co-workers and others with respect; and maintain a culture in which everyone takes responsibility for achieving results while upholding the organization's core values.

The Siegel Institute for Leadership, Ethics & Character, an academically based institute at Kennesaw State University, seeks to inspire, enable and promote ethical conduct, decision-making and leadership for the common good.

Turknett Leadership Group 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. They serve small, mid-sized and large organizations such as AGL Resources, American Cancer Society, AT&T, Bennett International Group, Freebairn & Co., Georgia-Pacific Corp., Hewlett-Packard and Mercer Human Resources Consulting. For more information go to www.turknett.com.