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MEDIA ALERT / PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Dallas Junior Chamber to Honor 2011 Five Outstanding Young Dallasites on August 25

The Dallas Junior Chamber of Commerce (DJCC) will honor this year's Five Outstanding Young Dallasites (FOYD) Thursday, August 25 at the House of Blues. Attendees include the Five Outstanding Young Dallasites honorees, their family and friends, the city's elite politicians and civic officials, and DJCC members. Craig Watkins, District Attorney of Dallas County, will join us as our keynote speaker.

WHEN: Thursday, August 25th at 6:30 PM

WHERE: House of Blues Dallas - 2200 N Lamar St, Dallas, TX 75202

ATTIRE: Cocktail/Business Attire

TICKETS: \$35 for Dallas Junior Chamber of Commerce members and \$45 for non-members. Tickets may be purchased online at www.djcc.us/foyd. Press tickets are available upon request.

2011 FIVE OUTSTANDING YOUNG DALLASITES HONOREES



JOHN ANSBACH is the chief legal officer for Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). Through his work John is devoted to stopping drunk driving, supporting the victims of this violent crime and preventing underage drinking. John has also been an active member of the community through his volunteer activities and currently serves in the General Counsel Forum – Dallas Chapter (2008–Present), including being the 2011 President and a past Member of the Board of Directors. He has worked with Susan G. Komen for the Cure® in the Dallas Affiliate (2008–Present) as a Member of the Board of Directors. He served with the United States Organization for Bankruptcy Alternatives (2007–2010) and in 2009, 2010 as the legislative director and a member of the Board of Directors. Mr. Ansbach graduated from Texas A&M University and the University of Texas, School of Law.



HEATH CHEEK is an associate attorney with the firm of Bell Nunnally & Martin LLP where he represents Fortune 500 companies, small businesses, and individuals with complex commercial litigation including antitrust, labor and employment, patent and trade secrets, real estate, and securities. Heath exhibits the same level of commitment to his community as he does with his clients. He founded and serves as chairman of the Texas Tech Quarterly Business Briefing, an event that provides scholarships to economically-disadvantaged, Dallas County students attending Texas Tech. Over the past three years, Heath has raised \$65,000 in scholarships for dozens of students, many of whom would not be able to attend college if it weren't for the aid. Mr. Cheek graduated *magna cum laude* from Texas Tech University where he received his Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science. He graduated from Baylor University School of Law where he was executive editor of the *Baylor Law Review*.



CARL PANKRATZ is senior vice president/legal counsel for Capital Title of Texas, LLC where he oversees the legal department, manages 200+ employees, and works with developers, lenders, and attorneys to ensure transactions go smoothly. In June 2011, Mr. Pankratz was elected to the Rowlett City Council, Place 3 in a run-off election against an incumbent. The Texas Bar Association recently elected Carl to fellow; this honor is bestowed to the top 1/3 of 1% of all Texas attorneys. He has been selected as one of 20 lawyers to participate in the State Bar of Texas Leadership Class, a program which recognizes professional, community and personal accomplishments. Carl is active in the following professional organizations: chair and founder of Blackacre 48 Commercial Real Estate Group, former vice president of the Rockwall County Boys and Girls Club, Texas Land Title Association PAC Board of Trustees, Tower Club Dallas 48 Board, and World Affairs Council. Mr. Pankratz graduated *magna cum laude* from Southern Methodist University and he received his J.D. from the Dedman School of Law.

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SARAH POLLEY is executive director at Vickery Meadow Learning Center; VMLC assists adults in some of the most impoverished areas of Dallas change their lives by teaching them to read and write in English and the center helps their young children get a head start in school by teaching them reading skills. Under Sarah's leadership, VMLC's budget has more than tripled, and the organization expanded to a second campus in West Dallas. Sarah is the chief fundraiser, while working with the Board of Directors to manage over 200 volunteers; most non-profits would need three or four staffers to handle all of these roles. Ms. Polley was recognized at the SMU Women's Symposium with the 2010 Profile in Leadership Award. She is a graduate of the Dallas Regional Chamber's Leadership Dallas. Sarah received her Masters in Education from Texas Christian University and her Bachelor of Arts in Latin American Studies from Southern Methodist University.



JEREMIAH QUARLES is a project manager for the Office of Economic Development for the City of Dallas; it is in this role that he has established a profound reputation in his industry as he has influenced several businesses to stay and/or grow their operations in the City of Dallas, thus, producing millions of dollars for the city. As a member of Urban Financial Services Coalition, Jeremiah has spearheaded efforts to provide a school based financial literacy course, facilitated by our organization at Southern Dallas schools, in order to fight against financial "illiteracy" in these underserved communities. He quickly demonstrated his leadership skills, earning him the president-elected role as chapter programs assistant vice president. Jeremiah's accomplishments include the following: being named to the prestigious 2011 Apex Society Power 30 Under 30™ list, 2010 Dallas Business Journal's 40 Under Forty, and he was a finalist for the 2010 American Marshall Memorial Fellowship. Mr. Quarles received his B.A. in Finance from Michigan State University.

INTERVIEW AND PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES: Honorees, State Representative Dan Branch, DJCC board members, politicians and civic officials

EVENT BACKGROUND: Founded in 1927, this annual award was originally called the Distinguished Service Award. It has since been adopted by the United States Jaycees as a national award. Five Outstanding Young Dallasites (FOYD) recipients have the opportunity to be named one of the Five Outstanding Young Texans (FOYT) and one of the Ten Outstanding Young Americans (TOYA). Of the more than 600 young Americans honored over the past 73 years, many were recognized before the achievements for which they are now best known. Honorees include: John F. Kennedy, Gerald R. Ford, Ann Bancroft, Gale Sayers, Elvis Presley, George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton.

DALLAS JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BACKGROUND: The Dallas Junior Chamber of Commerce (DJCC) is the city's premier network for young professionals between the ages of 21 – 39. We provide diverse opportunities for personal and professional growth through philanthropic, social, and educational activities.

Founded in 1918, The Dallas Chamber of Commerce was the second chamber founded. For over 90 years, the Junior Chamber has been a force for good in America and around the world. The Junior Chamber helped establish airmail services in America with member Charles Lindbergh, and has raised millions of dollars for causes such as the Muscular Dystrophy Association and the March of Dimes. They have built parks, playgrounds, hospitals, ball fields, and housing for the elderly while conducting service and support programs in thousands of communities nationwide.

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