

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Haily Wells | Director of Communications & Public Relations
office: 806.761.7005 | cell: 806.787.8804 | haily.wells@lubbockbiz.org

Re: **Norma Ritz Johnson Celebrates 15 Years with Lubbock Chamber**

LUBBOCK, Texas – The Lubbock Chamber of Commerce is pleased to recognize Norma Ritz Johnson for her 15 years of service to the Lubbock Chamber.

Johnson began her Chamber career on April 13, 2004 as Vice President-Legislative Affairs before being promoted to Executive Vice President in January 2014.

As Executive Vice President at the 5-Star Accredited Lubbock Chamber of Commerce, Johnson oversees business advocacy, public policy and government relations as well as community development and communications staff and efforts.

She was a part of the team that created the Lubbock Chamber Employer Health Plan and this past year she helped create the Chamber’s West Texas Employer Health Plan, an Association Health Plan, which gives small businesses the buying power and flexibility of large businesses.

“Norma’s service and leadership with the Lubbock Chamber over the last 15 years helped ensure the Chamber represents the community’s business interests at the local, state and national levels,” said Eddie McBride, Chamber President and CEO. “She is a nationally recognized expert on government affairs and policy issues affecting our business members.”

In 2011, Johnson received the prestigious Certified Chamber Executive (CCE) designation by the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE). She also received the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute of Organizational Management (IOM) professional designation, has served as an Institute Class Advisor and Board of Regents and is a Past Chair of the ACCE Government Relations Division. She also serves on the organization’s CCE Commission and is a board member of both the ACCE Foundation and Texas Association of Business, the state chamber of Texas.

“A true Chamber professional, she not only reflects positively on the Lubbock Chamber, but our entire West Texas region,” said McBride. “We’re fortunate she helps lead our Chamber team.”



Johnson serves on the Advisory Board of the Texas Tech College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources, the Revolving Loan Review Committee of the Caprock Business Finance Corporation and on the Breedlove Foods Board of Directors.

In 2007, Johnson was recognized with a “Top Twenty Under 40” award by the Young Professionals of Greater Lubbock, and in 2006 was named a “Top Twenty Hispanic” in Lubbock by Latino Lubbock Magazine.

Johnson earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Education and Communications from Texas Tech University and in 2011 was recognized as an Alumnus of Distinction by her academic department. She is an alumnus of Leadership Lubbock, Texas Agricultural Lifetime Leadership and Leadership Texas.

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The Lubbock Chamber of Commerce represents almost 1,900 businesses and over 79,000 employees on the South Plains which accounts for over \$2 billion in annual household earnings in Lubbock and West Texas. Since 1913 the Chamber, as a catalyst for business growth; a convener of leaders and influencers; and a champion for a stronger community, has served as a unified voice of business by actively advocating for a pro-jobs, pro-growth, pro-business climate.

