
ACI Announces New Board of Directors Leadership

The Association of Commerce and Industry of New Mexico (ACI) is pleased to announce new Executive Committee and Board of Directors leadership positions for the 2008-09 fiscal year. ACI is the statewide business advocate and the New Mexico affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the National Association of Manufacturers.

At the recent annual meeting in Taos, outgoing chair of the board Rick Wadley, president of Bank of America, New Mexico, passed the gavel to Brian Burnett, president of Bohannon Huston, Inc. Burnett's term officially begins July 1. Burnett has held numerous leadership positions working to create a stronger business climate by bringing together business organizations to discuss strategies that address issues of education, growth, water and economic development.

A recognized leader in the Albuquerque community, Burnett has served in a variety of organizations and community service groups. He is Past-President of ACEC-New Mexico and served as NAIOP New Mexico President in 2004. In addition, he is a past President of the UNM Alumni Association and currently serves on the Presbyterian Healthcare System Central New Mexico Board of Directors. His achievements throughout his career leading to his current position as President of BHI, demonstrate his commitment to excellence. Burnett's engineering expertise in conjunction with his strong skills in administration, project organization and communication have contributed to healthy business development and strategic planning during his tenure as president.

Burnett recently received the Distinguished Alumnus Award by Leadership New Mexico. Brian is an alumnus of Leadership New Mexico's Class of 2001 and is known for his expertise in state water issues. According to the Leadership New Mexico press release that announced the award, "The Leadership New Mexico Distinguished Alumnus Award recognizes a Leadership New Mexico graduate whose leadership activities have exemplified the highest standards and whose activities achieved statewide significance."

Burnett said: "I am extremely honored to be serving as Chair of ACI. The organization plays a vital leadership role in promoting business interests in New Mexico." President and Chief Executive Officer of ACI, Dr. Beverlee McClure said, "What makes my job one of the best in the state is the quality of leaders I have the opportunity to work with. This year's chair and officers represent leaders from all sectors of our state and I am excited about the coming year."

Other ACI officers and members of the Executive Committee for 2008-2009 include: First Vice-Chair: Gene Baca, Bueno Foods; Second Vice-Chair: Anita Williams Kelly, Meyners + Company; Secretary: Dan Girand, Mack Energy; Treasurer: Marcus Mims, Grant Thornton, LLP; Immediate Past Chair: Rick Wadley, Bank of America; FOCUS Chair: Perry Bendicksen III, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP; Government Affairs Chair: Dick Minzner, Rodey, Dickason, Sloan, Akin & Robb; JOBSPAC Chair: Don Chalmers; Marketing Chair: Janice Torrez, Blue Cross Blue Shield of NM; Membership Chair: Russell Allen; Allen Theaters; Carol Radosevich, PNM; J. Roy Miller, NM Small Business Development Centers; Brian Moore, Clayton Ranch Market; George Munoz, El Mercado Corp.; Phelps Anderson, SunValley Energy Corporation; Leo Baca, QWEST; Doug Cox, Atkinson & Co.; Jami Grindatto, Intel; Jim Hinton, Presbyterian Healthcare Services; Edna Lopez, COMPA Industries; Rick Matthews Boeing-SVS, Inc.; Andrew Siegel, Payday People Plus, LLC; Chris Stagg, Taos Ski Valley; T. J. Trujillo, Gallagher & Kennedy, PA; and ACI President & CEO Dr. Beverlee J. McClure.

In addition, ACI members elected the following individuals to serve three year terms on the board of directors: Perry Bendicksen, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP; Sharon Lombardi, Dairy Producers of NM; Marcus Mims, Grant Thornton, LLP; George Munoz, El Mercado Corp.; Andy Siegel, Payday People Plus, LLC.; JoLou Trujillo, MediaWorks; T. J. Trujillo, Gallagher & Kennedy, PA; Duane Trythall, Excel Staffing Company; Rick Wadley, Bank of America; and Anita Williams Kelly, Meyners + Co.

ACI's mission is to enrich the lives and prosperity of New Mexicans through a vibrant business climate built by effective advocacy and education. For more information or an interview with Brian Burnett, contact Marilyn Coleman at Bohannon Huston, Inc. 505-823-1000, or Debbie Scott, ACI Vice President at 505-842-0644.