

SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD
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NEWS RELEASE

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OUTSTANDING BUSINESSES, INDIVIDUALS HONORED AT 12TH ANNUAL
SOUTH BAY WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD AWARD CEREMONY

More than 300 civic leaders, business operators and graduates of job and career training programs were in attendance for the 12th annual South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) Alumni & Awards Recognition Breakfast, November 9th, at the Ayres Hotel in Hawthorne. Barbara Halsey, Executive Officer for the California Workforce Investment Board, delivered the keynote address.

Hawthorne Mayor Larry Guidi was the recipient of the Esther Williams Award for Excellence which was presented by SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel. Mr. Vogel cited the mayor's tireless efforts over the years to strengthen the training and vocational opportunities for youth and adults offered by the SBWIB and his successful effort to support the scholarship fund that has provided thousands of dollars in financial assistance for graduating high school seniors and college students.

The primary focus of the award ceremony was to honor those employers, organizations and individuals who made outstanding contributions within the workforce investment community by educating, training and employing hundreds of people during the past year.

Among the honored employers were: AT & T Government Solutions, The Aerospace Corporation, World Literacy Crusade, R & R Donnelly, Costco Warehouse, Teledyne, HomeTown Buffet, Don Harris Insurance Agency, Superior Super Warehouse, the Federal Aviation Administration, Bennecker Industries, Target, and Albertsons.

Wayne Spencer, Chairperson of the SBWIB Board of Directors, served as master of ceremonies for the event and presented individual awards to nine of the graduates who had successfully gained employment after completing career and vocational training through the SBWIB One-Stop Business & Career Centers during the past year. Mr. Spencer gave a brief summary of each of the individual's remarkable accomplishments that came about despite some severe obstacles and personal tragedies.

Mr. Vogel presented an overview of the SBWIB's annual performance and noted that more than 57,000 adults and youth received services within the nine city workforce investment area which includes the cities of Inglewood, Gardena, Redondo Beach, Manhattan Beach, Hermosa Beach, Lawndale, El Segundo, Hawthorne and the newly added city of Carson.