



PRESS RELEASE

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South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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**South Bay Workforce Investment Board Honors Training Partners,
Businesses and Successful Job Seekers at 24th Annual Awards Banquet**

HAWTHORNE – Nearly 500 community leaders, educators, employers, training partners and successful job seekers joined with the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) staff and administrators for the 24th Annual Awards Ceremony and Banquet, October 10th, at the Torrance Marriott.

SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel served as master of ceremonies for the event that was attended by numerous civic officials from the South Bay area including: Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts, Jr, along with Councilmember Ralph Franklin; Hawthorne Mayor Alex Vargas with Councilmember Alex Monteiro and Chief of Police Michael Ishii; Lawndale Mayor Robert Pullen Miles and Councilman Pat Kearney; Carson Councilmembers Jawane Hilton and Jim Dear; Gardena Mayor Tasha Cerda and Councilmember Rodney Tanaka; Torrance Councilmembers George Chen, Mike Rizzo and Milton Herring; Metropolitan Water District Board Chairwoman Gloria Gray; Centinela Valley Union High School District Board Members Marisela Ruiz, Hugo Rojas and Gloria Ramos; Hawthorne School District Board Members Cristina Chiappe, Luciano Aguilar, Dr. Eugene Krank and Vicente Bravo; El Camino College Trustee Nilo Michelin and President Dena Maloney; and, West Los Angeles College President Dr. James Limbaugh.

SBWIB Chairman of the Board Wayne Spencer joined with Mr. Vogel to honor 67 training partners who had achieved 90 – 100 percent placements of individuals into full time employment through the SBWIB. Special awards were also presented to the following seven South Bay area businesses: Bachem Americas, Torrance; MORF3D, El Segundo; Inglewood Park Cemetery, Inglewood; The Winston Box, Gardena; Hobby Lobby, Hawthorne, and, Marvin Engineering Company, Inglewood.

The evening's top award – the Esther Williams Award of Excellence - was presented to Los Angeles County Second-District Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas. Inglewood Mayor James T. Butts, Jr, made the presentation and cited the Supervisor's distinguished public service career that has spanned nearly 30 years during which time he has championed those initiatives that met the social and economic needs of his constituencies throughout Southwest Los Angeles County. "Supervisor Ridley-Thomas has continuously embraced and supported the initiatives of the SBWIB in developing opportunities for underserved populations to have access to educational and advanced training that could qualify them for well paying careers," Mayor Butts noted.

The net proceeds of the event will benefit youth programs the SBWIB provides.

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www.sbwib.org

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