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WIPP Honors National Award Recipients



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Photo by Olive Rosen

Pictured left to right: Rebecca Boenigk, Nancy Zurbuchen, Linda Drake, Brenda Reneau, Barbara Kasoff, Terry Neese, Joan Schlueter, Catherine Giordano. Not pictured: Lani Hay, Norma Byron

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WIPP Announces NATIONAL AWARDS for leadership in advancing women-owned businesses

WASHINGTON, DC (Sept. 14, 2006) – In a ceremony at its Leadership and Legacy Conference: 5th Anniversary Summit in Washington, D.C., Women Impacting Public

Policy (WIPP), the nation's largest bi-partisan women's business group, announced the 2006 WIPP Awards in several categories. These awards honor individuals that have demonstrated a commitment to advancing the growth and goals of women-owned businesses.

Senator Elizabeth Dole (R-NC) was honored with the 2006 WIPP Congressional Leadership Award, which recognizes a Member of Congress who has demonstrated great leadership on issues that impact the growth of women-owned business.

"Sen. Dole has exemplified strength, courage and power on behalf of our nation's 15.6 women business owners," said WIPP President Barbara Kasoff. "She has been a strong advocate in Congress for women entrepreneurs by supporting pro-business legislative measures for tax relief and affordable health care."

In addition to the WIPP Congressional Leadership Award, seven individuals received awards at the WIPP Summit.

Linda Drake, president of TCIM in Wilmington, Del., received the 2006 WIPP Member of the Year Award, which recognizes a member who has shown extraordinary commitment and leadership in growing the impact of WIPP.

The 2006 WIPP Member to Watch! Award was presented to **Brenda Reneau** of Oklahoma City, the first female elected as Oklahoma State Labor Commissioner who is serving her third term. This award honors a leader who has made a significant impact in their industry over the past year through innovation and excellence.

WIPP's Fast 5 Awards, created in recognition of the organization's fifth anniversary, were presented to five members' companies that have demonstrated rapid growth during the past five years. Award recipients were **Catherine Giordano**, president and CEO of Knowledge Information Solutions in Virginia Beach, Va.; **Rebecca Boenigk**, CEO of Neutral Posture in Bryan, Tex.; **Norma Byron** president and founder of Ashlawn Group in Alexandria, Va.; **Lani Hay**, president and CEO of Lanmark Technology, Inc. in Fairfax, Va; and **Nancy Zurbachen**, president and founder of Motional Multimedia in Kansas City, Mo.

Joan Schlueter, president of OnSite Hiring Consultants in Albuquerque, N.M., was presented with the WIPP President's Award for her passionate support of WIPP and for her work on behalf of women entrepreneurs throughout the country.

"All of this year's honorees are much more than successful business leaders," said Kasoff. "They are active citizens who are working to make positive changes in their communities as well as in public policy for women business owners across the country. We are proud to recognize their achievements through these WIPP Awards."

About WIPP:

Women Impacting Public Policy is a national bi-partisan group comprising over 550,000 members. The non-profit organization is the public policy voice for 44 national Women in Business groups and is The Voice for Women in Business in Our Nation's Capital. WIPP strengthens its members' sphere of influence in the legislative process, creates economic opportunities for members and builds alliances with other small business organizations. Visit www.wipp.org.

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