



For Immediate Release

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MARICOPA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE EXPANDS IT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Maricopa's Private-Public Partnership Adds Mayor, Superintendent of Schools

Maricopa, Ariz. – January 28, 2014 – The Maricopa Economic Development Alliance (MEDA) has appointed Maricopa Mayor Christian Price and Maricopa Unified School District Superintendent Steven Chestnut to its Board of Directors.

"As Maricopa's largest advocate, I am delighted to join the MEDA Board. MEDA is a prime force in leveraging Maricopa's strength and advancing the city's economic development", said Maricopa Mayor Christian Price.

Mayor Price currently is serving his first term as Maricopa's Chief Elected Official. He is very active in the community and volunteers his time whenever possible to non-profits, churches, and a host of other community service organizations. Mayor Price sits on the Maricopa Seniors Board as an advisory member, is a governing board member of For Our City/Citizens Corp and serves as a member of the Arizona Farm Bureau and the Maricopa Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Price is an enormous advocate of networking – meeting new people and establishing relationships with citizens, stakeholders, regional partners, members of neighbouring cities, and other government officials. He strongly believes that good working relationships with these groups and individuals will help Maricopa become a strong well-rounded regional player and directly influence the quality of life of the citizens through an enhanced economic development climate. As a regional leader, Mayor Price chairs the Ambassadors of the Greater Phoenix Economic Council, sits on the Maricopa Association of Governments Regional Council as well its Economic Development Council. He also works to represent Maricopa at the State and National levels, by serving on governance and organizational committees with the Arizona League of Cities and towns, as well as on the Steering Committee for Community and Economic Development Committee for the National League of Cities and Towns.

Dr. Steve Chestnut brings a distinguished record of achievement and excellence in school administration to his position as Superintendent of the Maricopa Unified School District. Appointed to this post in July 2012, Dr. Chestnut took the helm of a school district in one of America's fastest growing communities: the City of Maricopa, AZ. Since assuming this mantle, he has been working hard to understand the community's needs and to address the challenges facing the school district. As Superintendent, Dr. Chestnut has provided strong leadership in the growth and advancement of Maricopa's public schools.

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In the past year, Dr. Chestnut has facilitated several initiatives on behalf of the school district. A strategic plan was developed with a stakeholder committee and approved by the Governing Board in September, 2013. Six district schools became charter schools at the beginning of the 2013-14 school year. All nine schools are developing an academic focus which will begin with the 2014-15 school year. The generous \$1.3 million grant from the Ak-Chin Indian Community is being used this year to provide five additional math teachers at the three secondary schools, five additional paraprofessionals to support reading instruction at the elementary schools, and the installation of wireless technology in all nine schools.

Dr. Chestnut is a member of the American Association of School Administrators, having served on the Governing Board from 2004-07. He is also an active member of the Arizona School Administrators Association and the Pinal County School Administrators Association.

Bill Stacy, MEDA's Chairman/CEO and General Manager of Electrical District No. 3 said, "MEDA is proud and honored to welcome Mayor Price and Dr. Chestnut to our board. Having the Chief Elected Official and Chief Education Officer of our city actively engaged in our private-public partnership only strengthens our ability to advance economic development for Maricopa".

The Maricopa Economic Development Alliance (MEDA) is Maricopa's private-public partnership for economic development. As a 501(c)3 corporation, the organization champions strategies and solutions that foster economic growth and prosperity in the City of Maricopa by bringing together the business, government, education and civic sectors to identify and advance forward-looking policies that facilitate investment, growth and workforce development. MEDA's board is comprised of the leading executives of Maricopa's major business sectors, representing expertise and experience in utilities, finance, development, health care and infrastructure development. Equally important are the elected officials and public sector executives who bring the essential representation of the City of Maricopa's City Council, City Management and Economic Development functions.

For more information about MEDA, please visit www.MaricopaEDA.com.

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