



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Choice Awards: The Movie

EMSDC Awards Production Celebrating the Best of the Best in Supplier Diversity

PHILADELPHIA, PA – December 11, 2020 – The **Eastern Minority Supplier Development Council (EMSDC)** wouldn't let the pandemic stop them from celebrating success, networking, and presenting Corporation of the Year, Supplier of the Year, and other awards of distinction. Typically, 300+ guests gather in a select venue for an evening of networking, fine dining, and dancing, but to be safe, EMSDC chose to produce a movie to recognize leaders in our region.

The production included virtual networking, mixology fun, musical entertainment, and of course presentations of the following awards.

- Paving the Way Award: Vernice Lewis, PECO, An Exelon Company; Ajamu Johnson, Comcast; Ron Baldwin, AmeriHealth Caritas; Shelly Brown, Aon; Natily Santos, Aramark
- Kick Ass Award: Southern Region Minority Supplier Development Council
- MBE Advocate of the Year: Earl Harvey, Black Professional News (posthumously)
- Corporate Advocate of the Year: Sharon Manker, American Water Works Service Company, Inc.
- Supplier of the Year (Class I): Benefits Plus Consulting Group, Inc.
- Supplier of the Year (Class II): Impact Dimensions
- Supplier of the Year (Class III): Technology Concepts Group International, LLC
- Supplier of the Year (Class IV): DIVERSANT
- Regional Corporation of the Year: Independence Blue Cross
- National Corporation of the Year: American Water Works Service Company, Inc.

“The Choice Awards gives us an opportunity to celebrate the countless successes of our members, our organization and, on a larger scale, supplier diversity,” said Valarie Cofield, President & CEO of EMSDC. “The evening allows us to not only reflect on what we’ve accomplished thus far, but also to look to the future at how much more we need to do to move the needle, while amplifying the importance of support and advocacy of diverse businesses, from both sides.”

Thank you to our sponsors: American Water; AmeriHealth Caritas; Aon; Aramark; City of Philadelphia; Comcast; e&e Technical Consultants, LLC; Independence Blue Cross; Kang Haggerty & Fetbroyt, LLC; KORYAK; Lafata Contract Services; Parx Casino; PECO, an Exelon Company; PEPCO, an Exelon Company; Pfizer; Spectrum; UPMC; and Verizon.

For more information about EMSDC visit www.EMSDC.org or call 215-569-1005.

About EMSDC

The Eastern Minority Supplier Development Council (EMSDC), a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, is an affiliate of the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC). There are 23 regional councils across the country with more than 1,750 corporate members. The EMSDC certifies and connects minority-owned businesses (Asian, Black, Hispanic, and Native American) throughout Pennsylvania, Southern New Jersey, and Delaware with member corporations who are committed to supplier development and want to purchase their products, services and solutions.

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