



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Elizabeth Arevalo

561.835.1008, cell 846-2832

earevalo@bdb.org

August 7, 2012

BDB CEO appointed as vice-chair of Enterprise Florida's Stakeholder Council

Gray Swoope, Secretary of Commerce and president & CEO of Enterprise Florida Inc., appointed Kelly Smallridge as the new vice chair of Enterprise Florida's Stakeholder Council. Kelly begins her two-year term immediately. She takes over from Brent Christensen, who chaired the Council from January 2010-May 2012.

As vice chair, Kelly will preside over Stakeholder Council meetings to identify challenges in Florida's ability to create jobs and maintain a competitive business climate. As the only economic development organization president, Kelly will serve as an ex-officio member of the Enterprise Florida board and will report Council discussions and recommendations to directors. As such, she will serve as the primary liaison between the Council and Enterprise Florida Board and will work with Council members to ensure that issues and recommendations regarding Florida's economic competitiveness are effectively and appropriately conveyed to and considered by the board.

Enterprise Florida Inc. (EFI) is a public-private partnership serving as Florida's primary organization devoted to statewide economic development. EFI's mission is: To facilitate job growth for Florida's businesses and citizens leading to a vibrant statewide economy.

The Stakeholders Council is a broad-based group including economic development organizations, workforce development organizations, business development organizations, regional planning councils, community colleges, universities, military complexes, state agencies and key business sectors. The Council provides strategic information to the Enterprise Florida Board on key issues that affect job facilitation, business climate, and economic development policies and procedures around the state. The Stakeholders Council addresses issues through subject matter-based task force groups, e.g. competitiveness, marketing, innovation & entrepreneurship, supply chain, logistics and manufacturing.

About the BDB: The Business Development Board of Palm Beach County is the official public/private economic development organization for Palm Beach County and Enterprise Florida. Founded in 1982 as a not-for-profit corporation, our primary purpose is to attract and retain new industry, business investment, high quality jobs and workforce development through corporate relocations, expansions and international trade. During the past five years, the BDB has assisted companies that have created more than 7,900 direct jobs with average salaries greater than \$55,400, resulting in more than \$400 million in capital investment to Palm Beach County and an economic impact that exceeds \$1.8 billion. Additional information can be found at the BDB's Web site, BDB.org.