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Verdex Construction Recognized with GrowFL 2017 'Florida Companies to Watch' Award

West Palm Beach, Fla. – (July 21, 2017) – West Palm Beach-based Verdex Construction has been selected from more than 500 companies to be recognized for the 2017 GrowFL "Florida Companies to Watch" award. The awards event - now in its sixth year - honors select, second-stage companies from throughout the state for developing valuable products and services, creating quality jobs, enriching communities, and broadening new industries throughout Florida. The 50 selected "Florida Companies to Watch" collectively represent \$391 million in annual revenue and employ 1,948 full-time equivalent employees. Verdex is one of just two companies selected in Palm Beach County.

"When we say we are 'Building Something Better,' we're not just talking about our projects, but our company's culture and commitment to the communities where we live," stated Rex Kirby, company president. "Our rapidly growing client list reflects their trust in this mission and our goal of exceeding expectations and delivering their projects successfully."

Verdex began offering construction services in 2015, growing from an initial staff of 4 to 31 in 2016. Revenue has grown from just under \$2 million in 2015 to an expected \$100 million plus in 2017. Verdex provides general contracting services to clients including preconstruction, construction management, and design-build. Verdex is committed to 'Building Something Better' through exceptional service, a fundamental focus on safety and quality, agility and value to owners, customers and the community.

Verdex projects underway throughout South Florida include 1000 North, a Michael Jordan co-owned restaurant on the Loxahatchee River in Jupiter; Sabbia Beach Condominiums, a 19-story, 68 unit luxury residential tower in Pompano Beach; the Turnpike Business Park, a light industrial office/warehouse facility project in suburban West Palm Beach; an interior renovation for Aberdeen Country Club and several

apartment complexes including the recently completed <u>High Ridge Landing</u> Apartments in Boynton Beach.

"These stand-out companies are all led by entrepreneurs, and have demonstrated their capacity and intent to grow," said Dr. Tom O'Neal, executive director of the Florida Economic Gardening Institute and associate vice president for the University of Central Florida's Office of Research and Commercialization. "They also all have critical intellectual property or a niche position that gives them a competitive edge in their markets," he said.

Verdex will be officially recognized October 14, 2017 at the Straz, Tampa, FL. For more information, visit growfl.com/flctw17.

About Verdex Construction

Verdex Construction is a privately held building contractor based in West Palm Beach, FL, led by founder and President Rex Kirby, a 35-year veteran in the construction business. Verdex provides general contracting services to clients including preconstruction, construction management, and design-build. Verdex is committed to "Building Something Better" through exceptional service, a fundamental focus on safety and quality, and value to owners, customers and the community. For more information, visit www.verdex.com.

About GrowFL

GrowFL was created in 2009 by the Florida legislature as an economic development program focused on assisting second-stage growth companies prosper in the state of Florida. By providing strategies, resources and support to second-stage companies for next level growth through Strategic Research, Peer Learning and Leadership Development, GrowFL helps companies overcome obstacles to growth and leads them towards prosperity. Based on the philosophy of Economic Gardening®—to grow existing businesses in a community, region or state—GrowFL, the Florida Economic Gardening Institute, is a critical component to the state's economic development strategy and Florida's entrepreneurial ecosystem. GrowFL is a statewide economic development organization certified by the National Center for Economic Gardening through the Edward Lowe Foundation. GrowFL has assisted more than 800 companies through the Strategic Research and CEO Roundtable programs and recognized 250 successful entrepreneurs through the annual awards program, Florida Companies to Watch. Learn more at www.GrowFL.com.