



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

Rick Perry
Governor

January 12, 2010

Greetings:

I am pleased to introduce the Mayor's Council for International Economic Development Partnerships (MCIEDP) for the City of McKinney, Texas and its new Director Mr. James Chen. MCIEDP provides a platform for local business leaders to promote both McKinney and the State of Texas for international trade and foreign investment.

With over \$93 billion in foreign-direct investment, the State of Texas ranks as one of the most business-friendly destinations in the USA. In Texas, there is no state income or corporate tax. As the world's 12th largest economy, Texas has ranked as the number one exporting state for the 7th year in a row. The countries of Mexico and Canada, followed by China and the Netherlands were the leading destinations for Texas exports in 2008. Because of this economic vitality, Texas enjoys tremendous commercial growth and ranks first in the USA for job creation and third nationally for the number and sales and receipts of Asian-owned firms.

As a member of the TexasOne program, the City of McKinney is actively involved with a variety of statewide economic development initiatives. TexasOne helps champion the state's record-breaking economic development initiatives, helping in turn to develop a surge of national and international awareness of Texas as a business-friendly state.

McKinney is located in the Dallas/Fort Worth Region as the seat of Collin County, Texas. With more than half of its workforce possessing college degrees, Collin County is at present the wealthiest and fastest-growing county in the state.

I encourage you to discover both Texas and McKinney as vibrant and competitive places to do business and to invest capital. In Texas, you will find that we are truly "Wide Open for Business".

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Aaron Demerson".

Aaron Demerson
Executive Director
Economic Development & Tourism
Office of the Governor – State of Texas