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**-PHOTO RELEASE-**

**North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency Honored North Texas Entrepreneurs During the Sold-Out Inaugural Sapphire Soiree Gala in Arlington**

**DALLAS, August 14, 2024** – [North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency](#) (NCTRCA) recently hosted its inaugural Sapphire Soiree Gala to honor outstanding women-led and diverse led businesses throughout North Texas. Presented by [The Confidence Group](#), the sold-out black-tie gala with a theme of “Where Elegance Meets Opulence,” was attended by more than 420 leaders from all over the metroplex, including Dallas Commissioner John Wiley Price.

The Sapphire Soiree Gala included a VIP Reception and VIP after-party, both hosted by The Confidence Group. NCTRCA certified business, Casa de Reyes Tequila was the featured spirit of the event. The evening also included live entertainment by Alpha 2 Omega band, a silent auction raffle, a photo booth, and an inspirational keynote message by Dr. Cheryl Polote Williamson, best-selling author, philanthropist, CEO and founder of Williamson Media Group.

The highlight of the evening was recognizing the honorees of the evening

- Prabu Patil, PROLIM Global Corporation - Trailblazer Award
- Calvin W. Stephens, SSP Consulting - NCTRCA Lifetime Achievement Award
- Arcilia Acosta, CARCON – Championing Business Diversity Award
- Isaac Barnes, The Confidence Group - Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Excellence Award
- Na’Kedra Rogers, Optimistically Ke, LLC - Outstanding Women-Owned Business Award
- Robert Nance, Alliance Geotechnical Group - Small Business Enterprise Award
- Marc Sandu, ARS Engineering, Inc. - Minority-Owned Business Excellence Award
- Toan Luong, AMPH Hospitality-Amersand - Small Business Concessionaire Diamond Award
- Kelye Rouse Brown, KRB Business Solutions - SOAR Success Airport Concessionaire Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Award
- Martin Burrell, The Burrell Group - Legacy of Excellence NCTRCA Founder Award
- Sundra Davis - Legacy of Excellence NCTRCA Founder Award



The 2024 Sapphire Soiree Gala was presented by The Confidence Group. Other sponsors include The Rios Group, Dallas-Fort Worth Airport, Parkland Health and Hospital System, CarCon, Gorrondona & Associates, Dallas Independent School District, North Texas Tollway Authority, City of Irving, City of Arlington, City of Fort Worth, Dallas County, Dallas County College/ Goldman Sach Program, Alliance Geotechnical Group, Tarrant County College, Muhammad Law Firm, Austin Industries, The Beck Group, and JE Dunn Construction.

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#### **EVENT PHOTOS**

- Please see the link to event photos [here](#).
- Photo credit: Photos provided by The Confidence Group.

#### **ABOUT NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL CERTIFICATION AGENCY**

The North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency is the premiere certification agency in North Texas, providing certification and educational support to its member entities and minority-owned, woman-owned, disadvantaged, and small businesses through services aimed at facilitating business success in the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. <https://nctrca.org/>

#### **ABOUT THE CONFIDENCE GROUP**

Founded by Isaac Barnes more than two decades ago, The Confidence Group offers a unique combination of educational advancement resources, construction services, and philanthropic and community support. The Confidence Group is one of the country's premier minority firms and a trusted partner with a proven track record of success in youth development programs in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math. For more information about The Confidence Group, visit: [The Confidence Group](#).