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For Immediate Release

Better Business Bureau® of Fort Worth Announces 2016 Torch Awards Gala BBB® now accepting submissions from local Accredited Businesses and Charities

FORT WORTH, Texas, (October 22, 2015) – Do you have what it takes to be a Torch Award winner? Does your business or non-profit organization demonstrate exceptional ethics, community involvement and customer service? Better Business Bureau® of Fort Worth and Tarrant County, Inc. is excited to announce its annual Torch Awards Gala which will take place Saturday, February 20, 2016 at the Fort Worth Zoo.

BBB® Fort Worth is pleased to announce an exciting change to the 2016 Torch Awards. The 2016 Torch Awards judging committee will select one winner from each of the eight service-area counties, who will be awarded the Torch Award for their respective county. From these eight selected recipients, the committee will then select a top winner for each criteria category (Ethics, Community Involvement and Customer Service) who will be honored at the Gala on February 20.

The Torch Awards is an annual ceremony that honors local companies and charities who excel at ethical business practices, community involvement and excellent customer service. The awards were established in 1994 and bring attention to the practices that these organizations employ to generate a high level of trust, among their employees, customers and in their communities. The businesses and charities who receive this honor maintain business practices and activities that exemplify BBB®'s mission and principles.

The Torch Awards are open to all BBB® Accredited Businesses or Accredited Charities located within BBB® Fort Worth's eight county service area including: Tarrant, Parker, Wise, Johnson, Hood, Somervell, Erath and Palo Pinto. Entrants must currently be accredited with BBB®, and have been for a minimum of three years and maintain a B rating.

Event proceeds benefit the Consumer Education Foundation, a 501©3 non-profit organization that provides academic scholarships to incoming freshman who demonstrate an understanding of ethics. Since 2004, the CEF has awarded more than \$83,000 in scholarships to local students.

Your BBB® is now accepting applications for the 2016 Torch Awards. **The deadline for submission is November 12, 2015.** To get started visit our website <u>here</u>.

Three Ways to Apply:

- Online Submission Click "Apply Online" button and submit your application electronically
- 2. *Email* download the application form and send to <u>communications@fwbbb.org</u>
- Mail download the application form and mail to: BBB of Fort Worth Attn: Communications 1300 Summit Avenue, Suite 700 Fort Worth, TX 76102

For more information about the 2016 Torch Awards please visit our <u>website</u> or contact us at <u>communications@fwbbb.org</u>.

About BBB® of Fort Worth and Tarrant County, Inc.

The Better Business Bureau[®] of Fort Worth and Tarrant County, Inc. is a not-for-profit agency serving Tarrant, Johnson, Hood, Wise, Erath, Palo Pinto, Somervell, and Parker counties. Fort Worth BBB[®] provides education and information on business and business standards; and serves consumers by helping resolve consumer complaints regarding businesses. For more information, call (800) 621-8566 or visit <u>www.fwbbb.org.</u>

About BBB®

For 100 years, Better Business Bureau[®] has been helping consumers find businesses, brands and charities they can trust. In 2011, consumers turned to BBB[®] more than 100 million times for Business Reviews on more than 4 million companies and Charity Reports on 11,000 charities, all available for free at www.bbb.org. The Council of Better Business Bureaus[®] is the umbrella organization for 115 local, independent BBB[®]'s across the United States and Canada, as well as home to its national programs on dispute resolution and industry self-regulation. For more information, visit www.bbb.org.