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**Goodwill Honors LB City Prosecutor Doug Haubert & Dr. Felton Williams
*Outstanding Goodwill Participants and Partners Also Recognized at
Annual Awards Event Hosted by The WAVE's Pat Prescott***

Long Beach, CA—March 6, 2018—Long Beach City Prosecutor Doug Haubert and Dr. Felton Williams of the Long Beach Unified School District Board were honored at Goodwill's "Celebrate the Power of Work" Awards Dinner on February 28. The awards event is held annually to honor exceptional community leaders as well as inspirational individuals who've transformed their lives through job programs offered by Goodwill, Serving the People of Southern Los Angeles County (SOLAC).

Popular radio personality Pat Prescott of *94.7 The WAVE* hosted the awards dinner, which was held at the Pacific Ballroom at the Long Beach Convention & Entertainment Center. The event also recognized Goodwill's Employer of the Year and Community Partner of the Year for their role in providing job opportunities to Goodwill's job program participants.

Doug Haubert received the 2018 Community Leader of the Year award for his leadership in authoring a series of results driven initiatives that have made Long Beach safer while improving the city's recidivism and school truancy rates. Soon after winning the 2010 election for Long Beach City Prosecutor, Haubert started the city's Gang Prevention Strategy, a three-part approach to reducing gang violence that was recognized by *Neighborhoods USA* as one of America's Best Neighborhood Programs. He also created the Parent Accountability and Chronic Truancy Program, a partnership between the school district, the police department and the City Prosecutor's Office to improve graduation rates and keep parents engaged in their children's education. Doug is also recognized as a national leader in court diversion programs through his recently launched pilot program – "Promising Adults, Tomorrow's Hope" or PATH – to direct nonviolent, first-time offenders into jobs and work-readiness programs.

Dr. Felton Williams, who was presented with the 2018 Catalyst of the Year award, is a trailblazing board member for the Long Beach Unified School District, serving four terms as its president. While serving on the District's board, Dr. Williams led a series of strategic initiatives that ultimately enabled students to succeed in school while increasing high school graduation and college entrance rates. This is a particularly remarkable feat, given that Long Beach is one of the most diverse cities in the nation. Its population of 74,000 students speaks dozens of languages at home, and about 70% of students receive free and reduced-price meals. Despite these challenges, Dr. Williams created far reaching programs that helped level the playing field for all students.

The Employer of the Year award was presented to Arconic, the premier designer and manufacturer of aerospace and industrial fasteners and tools. Arconic received its award for employing participants of Goodwill's Supported Employment Program that provides job opportunities to those with developmental and physical disabilities. Since creating this partnership in 2014, the Goodwill SOLAC workforce at Arconic's Carson facility has grown from a group of four individuals with one team leader to currently two groups of four individuals, each with a team leader.

The Community Partner of the Year award was presented to the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) for referring more than 100 of Goodwill's participants to its Certified Nurse Assistant and Loss Prevention Training Programs. DPSS established its partnership with Goodwill SOLAC in 2015 based on their joint mission of helping individuals become employed and ultimately lead economically self-sufficient lives.

Three participants of Goodwill's job programs were honored at the awards event for leading successful careers. These award recipients are: Damon Richardson, Graduate of the Year; Anthony Batten, Achiever of the Year; and Krystal Urzua, Graduate Employee of the Year.

Damon Richardson, a graduate of Goodwill's Loss Prevention Training Program, is receiving high performance marks as a campus security officer for the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. Yet, Richardson's career track hasn't always been so smooth. Several years ago, after losing his job as a phone banker, he struggled to find work. Months passed without any job offers, so he went through his savings. As a single father of twins with no means to support them, he ended up on General Relief. He began to lose hope until a social worker told him about Goodwill's Loss Prevention Training Program. He eventually graduated at the top of his class and is now an active member of the training program's alumni association.

Anthony Batten is a strong performing machine operator at Arconic, which enables him to use his gift of focus and precision to sort and inspect up to 25,000 fasteners a day. It's an important job, given that these rivets and bolts are used for aircraft construction. However, before accepting his job at Arconic, Batten spent two years unemployed after being laid off from a longtime customer service job. When he visited the Harbor Regional Center, a local nonprofit that provides services to individuals with developmental and physical disabilities, he was referred to Goodwill to assist him with employment services. Within weeks, Goodwill helped Batten land a job with his current employer.

Krystal Urzua puts the needs of Goodwill first in her job as a compliance, risk and safety manager. Whether it's waking up at 3 am to answer a potential break-in call or responding to an in-store emergency, Urzua is always at the ready to serve Goodwill. Since childhood, Krystal dreamed of working in a job that helped protect others. Born to teenage parents, Krystal lived in poverty as a young child. She worked hard in school, and ultimately earned a scholarship, becoming the first in her family to attend college. Although she earned a bachelor's degree, Krystal's aspirations to start a career in law enforcement stalled. She lacked the full slate of qualifications to enter the career field. That all changed after she learned about Goodwill's Loss Prevention Training Program.

The awards event received a wide range of sponsorship support from the local business and civic community. The event's Diamond Sponsors were Frank and Lisa Chapman, and the Gold Sponsors were Executive Control Insurance Services and the Long Beach Water Department. These and the other event sponsors can be viewed here: www.ThinkGood.org/PowerOfWork/

Goodwill SOLAC is a nonprofit organization that transforms donated goods into job training, education and placement services for individuals with barriers to employment. Goodwill SOLAC serves 22 cities and communities throughout Southern Los Angeles County. Goodwill SOLAC's main facility—located at 800 W. Pacific Coast Highway in Long Beach—houses its administrative offices, training programs, processing operations, transportation fleet, LiNKS Sign Language & Interpreting Services, a retail store and its e-commerce operations. To learn more about Goodwill career services or to find your nearest Goodwill store or donation center, visit www.ThinkGood.org.

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Photo Captions:

Photo #1-below: Community Leader of the Year award recipient Doug Haubert (second, right) is shown accepting his award while flanked by (from left) Long Beach Police Chief Robert Luna; Goodwill SOLAC President and CEO Janet McCarthy; event host Pat Prescott; and Goodwill SOLAC Board Chair Anitra Dempsey.

Photo #2-below: Catalyst of the Year award recipient Dr. Felton Williams (second, right) is pictured accepting his awarded as he stands with (from left) event host Pat Prescott; Goodwill SOLAC President and CEO Janet McCarthy; and Goodwill SOLAC Board Chair Anitra Dempsey.

Photo #3-attached: (From left) Doug Haubert, Janet McCarthy and Dr. Felton Williams pose for a fun celebratory of "jumping in the air" photo during Goodwill's awards event.

Photo Credit: Caught in the Moment Photography