



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 12, 2018

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DARRELL JAMES, PRESIDENT OF JAMES + ASSOCIATES, HONORED AS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

(NASHVILLE, Tenn.) – The Tennessee Economic Development Council (TEDC) has recognized Darrell James, President of James + Associates, as the 2018 Jim Spradley Volunteer of the Year. Darrell's leadership efforts and success in economic development were honored in his award selection for the Volunteer of the Year Award.

Darrell's contributions have been made in part by his volunteer work with Dickson County, the City of Dickson, the Economic Community Development Committee and the Industrial Development Board to execute three initiatives created due to the current industrial park being near capacity: locate new, viable land for industry; secure funding for development; and continue efforts to fill the existing Dickson County Industrial Park. Darrell possessed the wide-ranging experience required to understand landowners, the type of land needed and the demands of the 21st century industry as well as the complexities of locating and securing funding. He sits on neither the IDB nor the ECD Committee, instead, he is a valuable, volunteer consultant to these organizations. Serving since 2010, he has vast experience from past projects providing untold, unpaid hours with 2017's endeavors being no exception.

On a separate account, Darrell volunteered to oversee an \$82,000 matching SDG application aimed at due diligence studies for the South Site and prepared a master plan for the creation of a pad-ready site. In March, when Governor Haslam announced that Dickson County was one of 24 recipients of a 2018 SDG, the award amount was as requested, but Darrell was

just getting started. He oversaw the research and completion of a \$500,000 matching TVA InvestPrep grant application. Even more competitive than an SDG, this half million-dollar matching grant was awarded to Dickson County in full.

Having willingly served as an economic community development consultant for Dickson County and a site consultant for Daltile, a subsidiary of Mohawk Industries, at no charge to the company nor the county, Darrell's expertise helped seal the deal on Daltile's decision to open a manufacturing facility at the Quad/Graphics building in Dickson County Industrial Park. Under Mayor Rial's guidance, Darrell created a 10-year PILOT for Daltile then oversaw a Fast Track Grant for the industry in the amount of \$3,636,718. Daltile has pledged to invest \$75 million in the facility and operations by December 2018. This investment will increase to \$140 million by December 2023. The 68-acre site includes a 250,000-square-foot manufacturing facility, 23,400-square feet of warehouse space and is expected to employ nearly 250 people.

Hickman County Economic Community Development Association Chairman John Porch describes Darrell as "an informal member of our ECD team who is always at the table in a volunteer capacity. We've asked him to do a lot of work, but most times, we're not even billed. Darrell is an integral part of any success story we've had. He provides great insight and understands that we need to be ready. I have never met someone who will give their time to a community that is not their own, like Darrell James."

TEDC is a statewide professional organization for those involved in economic development. The Jim Spradley Volunteer of the Year Award was established in 1977. Recipients of the award must be nominated by TEDC members and selected by a committee of past presidents of TEDC from the field of nominees. Darrell's accomplishments were recognized at the TEDC Annual Fall Conference, which was held in Gatlinburg, Tennessee.

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