



NEWS RELEASE

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CELEBRATING LEGACIES OF MINORITY ENTREPRENEURSHIP, THE ENTERPRISE CENTER'S 4TH ANNUAL *PASSING THE TORCH* AWARDS HONOR HAROLD EPPS OF PRWT AND NAKIA STITH OF TOP OF CLOCK SECURITY

PHILADELPHIA, PA – The 4th annual *Passing the Torch* awards, October 8th - 5:30 to 8:00 pm, honors two legacies of minority entrepreneurship. This annual Philadelphia awards celebration hosted by The Enterprise Center (TEC), showcases the achievements of minority-owned enterprises as the next generation of leaders take the helm. Honoring business men and women who continue entrepreneurial legacies during executive leadership transition, TEC salutes entrepreneurial vision and its ability to transform lives.

This year's event to be held at The Enterprise Center at 4548 Market Street in West Philadelphia, continues the tradition of recognizing outstanding achievements across a variety of fields. These business leaders understand the power of small business to generate wealth, create jobs and help restore community vitality. The 2009 honorees include:

Harold Epps, President PRWT Services, Inc.

PRWT Services, is a diversified enterprise of pharmaceutical manufacturing and distribution, facilities management and maintenance, and business process solutions services. PRWT, a nationally recognized enterprise, is one of the largest minority-owned businesses headquartered in the Greater Philadelphia Region. PRWT has been ranked in the top 100 minority-owned service industry businesses in the United States by *Black Enterprise* magazine for the past nine years and has been named its Industrial/Services Company of the Year for 2009.

Nakia Stith, President, Top of the Clock, Inc.

Top of the Clock, Inc. (TOTC) is a security and protection services firm. TOTC's Public Safety Professionals specialize in holistic and cutting edge safety and security solutions for public, private, and educational institutions. By providing clients with innovative consulting and dependable personnel TOTC helps businesses and organizations maximize protection and minimize costs. Top of the Clock provides uniformed guard services; conducts safety assessments; drafts safety policy and plans; and conducts trainings on public safety.

"This event exemplifies what we try to achieve here at The Enterprise Center," said Della Clark, President of TEC. "By acknowledging the achievements of these men and women, we recognize the potential entrepreneurship holds for regional economic recovery and sustainable job creation. Minority entrepreneurship is a cornerstone to wealth creation and renewed community health. These success stories prove it is possible to achieve a vision and that minority entrepreneurship is an integral element of regional and national economic recovery."

For information about the Passing the Torch event, tickets, sponsorships or program ads, contact Carissa Jones at The Enterprise Center at 215-895-4016. Founded in 1989 by the Wharton Small Business Development Center, TEC provides access to capital, capacity building, business education and economic development opportunities to high-potential minority entrepreneurs. Through its portfolio of business-acceleration initiatives, TEC seeks to better position minority enterprises to compete in the local, regional, and global economies.

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