

**Mr. Alan Abbott**

Mr. Abbott is Chairman of Sunland Optical Co., Inc. and President of Lynwood Garden Investments, Inc. He has 17 years experience in public accounting in tax and audit. He is currently a board member and Audit Committee Chairman of the Paso del Norte Health Foundation, and a member of the Paso del Norte Group. In the past Mr. Abbott has been a Trustee of Pacific University, executive board and loan committee member of Valley Bank and Montwood National Bank, community board member of the State National Bank, founding director and Screening Committee chairman of the Camino Real Angels, Chairman and advisory board member of the regional and local Small Business Administration, Vice President and board member of the El Paso Zoological Society, board member of the El Paso YMCA and its Heritage Foundation. He has also served on the boards of Shipper's Transport Company and Martin Tire Company. Mr. Abbott is a graduate of Stanford University, with an MBA from The University of Texas at El Paso and is a Certified Public Accountant.

Mr. Abbott is a founding Director of the Texas Emerging Technology Fund.

**Ms. Yolanda Chavez-Ahner**

Ms Chavez-Ahner is the Interim Associate Vice-President for Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning at the El Paso Community College. Ms Chavez-Ahner has been an educator in our community for 45 years. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration and a Masters degree in Education from the University of Texas at El Paso. Ms Chavez-Ahner is a member of the Greater Chamber of Commerce Business Development Division as well as a member of the Skills Development Fund Task Force for El Paso Community College. She has received several awards some including: Who's Who of American Women, Who's Who in American Education, and Notable Women of Texas.

**Mr. Bob Cook**

Mr. Cook is the President of the El Paso Regional Economic Development Corporation (REDCo). REDCO is responsible for the recruitment of business and industry to the Greater El Paso region. Mr. Cook is the President/CEO of the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Young Life Campaign and First Baptist Church of El Paso, and a Director of the Texas Lyceum. He is a graduate of Southern Methodist University (Dallas, TX) and holds a bachelor degree in economics and a minor in business. Mr. Cook is married and has two children.

### **Mr. Steve DeGroat**

Mr. DeGroat is President and Owner of Lincoln Financial Advisors, a firm specializing in Employee Benefit Planning, Insurance, Investments and Financial Planning. Mr. DeGroat has held senior positions at InterFirst Bank and Surety Savings Association. He holds a BBA and MBA from the University of Texas at El Paso and a graduate degree in commercial banking from Southern Methodist University. Mr. DeGroat has taught business classes at UTEP and SMU. Mr. DeGroat's civic engagements include positions, both past and present, as a trustee of the El Paso Community Foundation, Director of the El Paso Chamber of Commerce, Director of the Greater El Paso Civic, Convention and Tourism Board, Vice Chairman of the El Paso Utility Regulation Board, Board Member of the Ronald McDonald House, Chairman and board member of El Paso YMCA, Member of the Paso del Norte Group, and Director of R.E. Thomason Hospital.

### **Mr. Alex del Moral**

Mr. Del Moral is a Relationship Manager with the Business Banking group at Wells Fargo. He previously worked for American Express in Dallas, TX where he received his Stock Brokers License as a financial advisor. Mr. Del Moral has experience in business acquisition, management purchase/buyout, working capital loans, term loans, bridge loans, secured/unsecured lines of credit, and owner occupied/ investor real estate purchases. He graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso with a Bachelors in Finance and holds a Masters in Business Administration.

### **Ms. Kathy Dodson**

Ms Dodson is the Director of Economic Development for the City of El Paso. She previously was the President/Chief Executive Officer for the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. Ms Dodson holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Southern Methodist University, a Master of Business Administration in International Management from the American Graduate School of International Management, and a Doctor of Philosophy from Clemson University. Ms Dodson has served as a member of several boards and committees. She is the President of the Westside Council of Chambers of Commerce, was part of the Industrial Recruitment Committee for the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce, and a Past Board Member for El Paso Community College.

### **Mr. Miguel Fernandez**

Mr. Fernandez is the co-founder of Transtelco, a bi-national telecommunications carrier. Transtelco was founded in 2001 as an internet service provider for the El Paso/Juarez region. The company now plays a prominent role as a provider of telecommunication services when it became the only local exchange carrier in Juarez, encompassing the only local fiber network through Juarez and El Paso. Transtelco focuses on providing seamless telecommunication services to cross-border clients using a 100% IP network, proprietary fiber optics and leading customer service. Mr. Fernandez graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso in 1998 with a Bachelors degree in Finance.

### **Mr. Todd Fowler (co-chair)**

Mr. Fowler is a Vice President of Verde Group Incorporated, a start up land development and financial services company. He is currently leading retail acquisitions and operations for the company in Texas. In the past Mr. Fowler was Vice President of Security Capital Research & Management as well as Vice President for Security Capital Group incorporated. Mr. Fowler graduated from the University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS in 1990 with a Bachelor of Science in Political Science.

### **Mr. Miguel Gamino (co-chair)**

Until recently, Mr. Gamino was co-founder, President and Chief Executive Officer of a technology company called Varay Systems, formerly eVolution Technology Group, a company he formed in May of 2003. Mr. Gamino graduated from the University of Texas at El Paso with dual degrees in Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting and Computer Information Systems and continued to become a Certified Public Accountant (CPA).

### **Mr. Marcus Hunt**

Mr. Hunt is Chairman of the Board for the El Paso Regional Economic Development Corporation (REDCo). Beginning as an independent securities trader in the 1990's, Mr. Hunt has ten years of experience in financial markets, including alternative investments and derivatives. He is president of the Hunt Family Foundation, formerly known as the Cimarron Foundation, which has been supporting non-profit organizations for 20 years. He is also on the boards of the New Mexico Nature Conservancy, the El Paso County Historical Society, Project Arriba, and the Lydia Patterson Institute. Mr. Hunt graduated from St. Paul's School in Concord, NH, St. John's College in Santa Fe, NM and studied law at Golden Gate University in San Francisco, CA. He and his wife Stacey have two daughters.

### **Mr. Steve Lauterbach**

Mr. Lauterbach graduated with a BBA degree in Accounting from the University of Texas at Austin in 1975. He began his career with Arthur Andersen in Houston and joined Lauterbach, Borschow & Company in 1978. Today, he is the firm's managing partner and, in addition to being a Certified Public Accountant, is also a Certified Valuation Analyst.

### **Mr. Oscar Ornelas**

Born and raised in El Paso, Mr. Ornelas joined Scott & Hulse, P.C. in 2002. His practice involves a broad range of tax matters, including individual, partnership, corporate, state, and foreign tax issues, and tax audit and controversy issues. The nature of his practice also involves him in general business matters. Mr. Ornelas practiced as a Certified Public Accountant before enrolling at the Texas Tech University School of Law. While at Texas Tech, Mr. Ornelas was named a member of the Earl Warren Inn of Phi Delta Phi. He served as a staff editor for the Texas Bank Lawyer, a cooperative publication of the Texas Tech University School of Law and the Texas Association of Bank Counsel, and as Business Manager for the Texas Tech Journal of

Texas Administrative Law. After receiving his J.D., he attended the Graduate Tax Program at the New York University School of Law where he earned his Masters in Taxation (LL.M.). Mr. Ornelas is fluent in Spanish and he serves, in conjunction with Jose Luis Carbonell, as the Firm's representative to the World Trade Center of El Paso/Juárez.

### **Mr. Pablo Salcido**

Mr. Salcido is President & COO of The Paso Del Norte Group (PDNG). The PDNG is actively engaged in ensuring the Paso del Norte region's quality of life is enhanced through strategic planning and active participation of the leadership in public-private partnerships. Mr. Salcido has held positions in economic development and the public sector in El Paso as President & CEO of the Housing Authority, City of El Paso (HACEP), in San Antonio, Texas, as well as internationally through USAID and the Peace Corp. In the private sector he was a business owner and plant manager for EDM International. He holds a BA from Austin College and an MPA from the University of Texas LBJ School of Public Affairs. He sits on the Texas Lyceum. A native of El Paso, Mr. Salcido is married with three children.

### **Mr. Tony Woo**

Mr. Woo received his B.S. and M.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Texas at El Paso. He has over 32 years of Operations Management experience in the consumer electronics, automotive and electronics industry with heavy emphasis in quality, manufacturing and product engineering. Mr. Woo was involved in new plant start-ups in both the US and Mexico with three major US corporations: RCA, Chrysler, and Rockwell International. He had the opportunity to work with several OEM customers in the US, Europe, Mexico and Japan in the introduction of new products. He has held the positions of plant manager, country manager, and Vice-President of Operations. Among his community activities, Mr. Woo has served on various boards: Board of Directors of the Greater El Paso Chamber of Commerce, UTEP Engineering Advisory Board, El Paso Community College Electronics Technology Program, El Paso Private Industry Council and UTEP Alumni Association.