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For Immediate Release

Contact: Tiffany Fulmer Ott
tfulmer@tlfexecutiveservices.com
404-312-0524

TWO VIRGINIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE EXECUTIVES RECEIVE VACCE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

CHESTER, VA – Debbie Jones, President & CEO of the Prince William Chamber of Commerce, and **Joyce Waugh**, President & CEO of the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce, were recognized with “VACCE Lifetime Achievement Awards” by the Virginia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (VACCE) at their Annual Awards Dinner held August 18 in Chester, VA, during their 2022 Executive Leadership Conference.

The *Lifetime Achievement Award* is presented on the occasion of these executive’s announced retirement. The award recognizes outstanding performance in the field of Chamber of Commerce management in the Commonwealth of Virginia and is presented to individuals who have exhibited characteristics that make him or her a leader both in their chamber and community. Outstanding achievements; effectiveness in addressing challenges; professionalism; program development and implementation; fiscal management; stature in the community; and other special qualities are considered in the award process.

Prince William Chamber of Commerce President & CEO Debbie Jones announced that she will be retiring from the Chamber after more than 32 years, on December 31, 2022. She has led the business member organization through a period of significant transition, growth, and success. Debbie began her Chamber career in 1990 when she was hired as the Communications Coordinator; in January 1993 she was promoted to serve as the President & CEO of the then-Prince William County-Greater Manassas Chamber, which served businesses and organizations in the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park, and throughout western Prince William County. Under her leadership over the next 17 years, the PWC-GM Chamber grew to over 1,000 members

After nearly 22 years with the Roanoke Regional Chamber of Commerce, President & CEO Joyce Waugh notified her Board of Directors of her plans to retire, effective December 31, 2022. Waugh joined the Chamber in July 2000 as Vice President of Public Policy & Strategic Issues and became President & CEO in October 2008. Steady leadership has defined Waugh’s tenure, even during challenging circumstances. The Chamber emerged from the Great Recession, as well as a once-in-a-century pandemic, stronger than before.

VACCE is an alliance of Chamber of Commerce professionals from across the state working together to improve the business climate in Virginia while developing ways to enhance the quality of life in the communities they serve. VACCE is the only organization in the state dedicated to the growth and development of Chamber professionals.

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