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## **TEXAMERICAS CENTER NAMES JEFF WHITTEN AS VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS**

***By dmcloskey***

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Whitten brings over 24 years of civil engineering experience to the staff

February 5, 2018– The TexAmericas Center Board of Directors and staff are pleased to announce the recent hire of Jeff Whitten, who has joined the TexAmericas Center team as the Vice President of Operations. In his new role, Whitten will be responsible for day-to-day operations, property management & maintenance, procurement, planning and management of building retrofits and new construction, and for the management of all real and personal property as it relates to the activities of TexAmericas Center.

*“We are excited to welcome Jeff Whitten to the TexAmericas Center team,” said Scott Norton, CEO/Executive Director of TexAmericas Center, “Jeff’s background experience in civil engineering and site construction planning will play an integral part in helping TAC to offer essential property maintenance and real estate services, including build-to-suit options for business prospects interested in locating to or expanding on the TexAmericas Center footprint.”*

Whitten comes to TexAmericas Center with over 24 years of experience in civil engineering and work on a broad array of projects in both the public and private sector. Most recently, Whitten worked as the Director of Public Works for the City of Texarkana, Arkansas. In his previous role, Whitten was responsible for the day-to-day operations of several departments, the administration of construction projects and contracts, updates and amendments to comprehensive plans and ordinances, and preparing reports and recommendations for the City Manager and Board of Directors. This background has allowed Whitten to make a smooth transition into his position as Vice President of Operations for TexAmericas Center.

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*“My decision to join the TexAmericas Center staff was due in large part to the mission of the organization,” said Jeff Whitten, Vice President of Operations for TexAmericas Center. “I intend to apply my knowledge and background experience to ultimately help create quality jobs for this region. I hope to see this area and my hometown grow and offer an attractive place for our children to consider in the future.”*

In addition to his employment with the City of Texarkana, Arkansas, Whitten has experience working in the DFW area, Northeast Texas and Southwest Arkansas. Whitten has worked on site improvement plans for office, retail, commercial and distribution center facilities—including the design of public infrastructure to serve the projects. One of Whitten’s first major tasks in his role as VP of Operations will allow him to put this background to good use through overseeing the formation of the first set of design standards and guidelines for site development and building construction at TexAmericas Center.

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## **About TexAmericas Center**

Located in the Texarkana metropolitan area, TexAmericas Center owns and operates one of the largest mixed use industrial parks in the United States. With roughly 12,000 development ready acres of land and about 3 million square feet of commercial and industrial product, TexAmericas Center services the four states (Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas) markets. Texas is the #1 state for business in the United States of America because of its regulatory environment, tax policies, and workforce quality along with exceptional educational resources, infrastructure, and quality of living. Founded in 1997, TexAmericas Center has the operating capabilities of a municipality but functions more like a traditional real estate development company, offering customized real estate solutions. In addition to controlling our own zoning and permitting processes and sustaining the life cycle of public infrastructure on the complex, TAC has the capability to lease, build-to-suit, or facilitate Greenfield owner-constructed projects in a timely and efficient manner. At TAC, we streamline leasing and manage government development processes all through a single point of contact. Our customers benefit from faster market entry by resolving zoning, permitting, inspection, and state and local incentive programs solely through our organization. Additionally, the Texas Economic Development Council (TEDC) designated a 101 acre site on TexAmericas Center’s central campus as the first S.T.A.R. Site in Texas (Sites That Are Ready for construction to begin), advancing speed to market for our customers. Tenants of TexAmericas Center tend to be private business owners and corporations seeking flexible and cost effective space solutions.

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