



For Immediate Release.

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**Albuquerque Economic Development, Inc.
Announces New President**

Danielle Casey to Lead AED Beginning October 2020

ALBUQUERQUE – Albuquerque Economic Development, Inc. announced today that after an extensive national search, the organization has named Ms. Danielle Casey as AED’s new president. She will begin on October 26, 2020.

“Danielle exceeded our expectations. She has the credentials, experience and poise to be an effective leader for economic development in our community,” said Eric Weinstein, Chairman of the AED Board of Directors. “Danielle has demonstrated success in all facets of economic development and business. We are thrilled to have someone of her ability leading AED, and we are confident she will bring innovation and strategic direction that will be a true asset in developing the greater Albuquerque economy.”

Ms. Casey has more than 20 years’ experience in general management, economic development, municipal and regional nonprofit leadership, business development and marketing and communications.

"I am thrilled to be joining such an exceptional team of professionals under the leadership of an immensely committed Board of Directors," Ms. Casey said. "Being chosen to serve in this important role is a true honor. I look forward to officially arriving in October, and getting to work. With the new realities brought about by COVID and an upcoming legislative session, there is no time to waste in capitalizing on our advantages. I am eager to roll up my sleeves and build on AED's history of success in advancing regional competitiveness and generating new employment opportunities for the community."

Prior to joining AED, Ms. Casey served as the Executive Vice President for the Greater Sacramento Economic Council in California. She also previously led the economic development efforts for the City of Scottsdale and City of Maricopa in Arizona. Early in her career, she applied her bachelor’s degree in anthropology to fundraising and management roles at the Heard Museum of Native Cultures and Art in Phoenix.



Ms. Casey has a master's degree in public management from Northern Arizona University, and earned her bachelor's degree from Arizona State University. She is a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD) and a Certified Economic Development Finance Professional (EDFP). In addition, she is involved in industry organizations such as the International Economic Development Council (serving on its Board of Directors), Land Economics Society, Site Selectors Guild, Industrial Asset Management Council and CoreNet Global.

Ms. Casey said she is excited to be back in the Southwest. "Coming to Albuquerque for this role is not only a professional dream to me, but a personal one as well. Its rich Southwestern culture and history, limitless outdoor activities, amazing climate, and diverse and welcoming community are all reasons why I am thrilled to make it my new home."

Earlier this summer, AED's executive search committee contracted with The PACE Group to launch its national search following President Gary Tonjes announcing his retirement after 25 years with AED. As part of the process, the group surveyed a variety of stakeholder groups including members, board members, staff, and public partners, which helped AED focus its search and evaluation efforts.

"It has been my privilege over the past six months to work with a talented committee of AED board members and community leaders, leading a rigorous and efficient selection process," Weinstein said.

For more information about AED, visit www.abq.org.

About AED

AED is a private, nonprofit organization whose mission is to recruit business and industry, help local companies grow and generate quality job opportunities throughout the Albuquerque metro area. AED provides confidential assistance to businesses considering the area for expansion and new investment. Since its creation in 1960, AED has recruited more than 250 companies and more than 35,000 jobs to the Albuquerque metro area. AED also provides retention and expansion assistance to existing industry.