

ADMIN
AWARDS

THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSION'S
HIGHEST HONOR



2025 DALLAS

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COLLEEN BARRETT

SERVANT LEADER & SUPERSTAR



WHEN THE ADMIN AWARDS WAS LAUNCHED IN 2012, WE SAT DOWN WITH COLLEEN BARRETT TO ASK HER FOR HER THOUGHTS AND EXPERIENCES ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSION. HER ANSWERS FROM THAT SEPTEMBER INTERVIEW, EDITED FOR BREVITY; ARE BELOW:

INTERVIEW

WHAT DID YOU LIKE MOST ABOUT BEING A SECRETARY?

I like to serve so you have to start there. I loved to solve problems. And I loved to give exemplary or positive customer service delivery on behalf of whomever I was working for. Life is all about relationships... you have an opportunity in the administrative group to form more relationships than probably any other position — even much higher up on that so-called ladder because you are very often that first point of contact with the outside world or the customer... life is just one big grassroots campaign as far as I’m concerned.

WHAT DID YOU LIKE THE LEAST?

I didn’t like anything that was routine. I loved to master projects, but, for example, filing was only interesting to me because I loved to be able to find anything that anyone was looking for... I’ve never liked rote work. (But) there’s some that goes in every job no matter what position you’re in.

WHAT WAS THE MOST CHALLENGING ASPECT OF SERVING HERB KELLEHER?

Being a nanny for 45 years for a man who has always thought he was 17 regardless of any year that was added to his personal calendar! He was a great servant leader. He loved life and you almost couldn’t be around him and not catch that love of life and love of people.

AND THE BEST ASPECT?

It was truly feeling his egalitarian spirit and appreciating the fact that he valued my judgment and thinking as a team member.

DID YOU EVER THINK YOU WOULD RISE FROM SECRETARY TO PRESIDENT AND COO OF SOUTHWEST AIRLINES?

Quite honestly it wasn’t something I wanted, and I never wanted to be COO—and I made that very clear to the Board— that isn’t my strength. My strength is customer service and people and everything that touches people, and, honestly, being President and COO wasn’t my favorite position at Southwest...my favorite position was Executive Vice President- Customers. Customer to us means employees, passengers, and shareholders, so I could really touch everything. I could touch every department. And as President... I had to do a lot more external things... I did them... I can’t say I hated them... (but) I like to get down and dirty and really roll up my sleeves.

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR ADMINS?

Love. Everybody. Just love. It’s a word that corporate America doesn’t use very much... always remember where you came from — so that you know how far you’ve come...I don’t think most of us start out thinking we’re going to be the President of the United States or the CEO of a company... and I think... be humble and appreciate what you get. To me psychic satisfaction is 10 times more important than pay or title.

“Be Authentic. Be Real. Remember Who You Are”



COLLEEN BARRETT AWARD FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXCELLENCE

WINNER



BRANDI WHITSON

SR EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CEO, PIZZA HUT (YUM BRANDS)

Brandi Whitson is the kind of Executive Assistant who makes excellence feel effortless, and leadership feel possible. As Senior Executive Assistant to Aaron Powell, Global CEO of Pizza Hut and Yum! Brands, Brandi brings more than 30 years of C-suite experience to one of the most dynamic global organizations in the world. She navigates complex calendars, travel, communications, and high-stakes priorities with precision and foresight, consistently helping the CEO and leadership team stay focused on what matters most. Colleagues describe her as three steps ahead, fiercely reliable, and quietly fearless in the way she solves problems before they ever reach a leader’s desk. Brandi’s impact goes far beyond logistics. She is a true business partner who strengthens collaboration across global teams and time zones, and a culture builder who makes people feel welcomed, prepared, and valued. Her mastery of Monday.com is a standout example. Brandi not only became an expert herself, she introduced the platform to the Global Leadership Team and helped transform how leaders plan, track work, and drive alignment across the business. What sets Brandi apart most is her heart for people. She leads with warmth, humor, and emotional intelligence, advocating for employees, mentoring fellow administrative professionals, and fostering a spirit of belonging.

She also serves as a passionate leader within the PRIDE ERG, ensuring inclusion is not just a value, but a lived experience. Brandi reflects the legacy of Colleen Barrett through her rare blend of proficiency, purpose, and care. She does not simply support the organization, she elevates it.

Finalists

	SANDIE BURNS Dallas College		JENNIFER CORDOVA Texas Health Resources		ELIZABETH NICHOLS-GOLLAHER Applied Materials
	AUDREY LEE Texas Health Resources		CHRISTINA SMITH Rocktop Technologies		

CONGRATULATIONS SHERRI MONSON

FOR BEING A 2025 ADMIN AWARDS NOMINEE

Your dedication, compassion, and commitment to excellence make a lasting difference each day. May this well-earned recognition remind you how valued and admired you are.

CONGRATULATES

BRANDI WHITSON

for being nominated for the Colleen Barrett
Award for Administrative Excellence



THE ABOVE THE CALL AWARD










AUDREY LEE

SR. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, TEXAS HEALTH RESOURCES

Some people uplift a department. Audrey Lee uplifts an entire hospital. After more than 25 years in administrative support and a courageous career transition from the construction industry to healthcare, Audrey has become the steady, compassionate force at the heart of Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Fort Worth. As Administrative Assistant for the Care Transitions department, she supports more than 80 team members with a rare blend of precision, empathy, and unshakable reliability. Her colleagues describe her as the “glue” of the team someone who anticipates needs, brings order to complexity, and brightens even the busiest days with warmth and purpose. Audrey’s leadership reaches far beyond her daily role. Elected Chair of ASAP (Administrative Support Applying the Promise), she strengthens communication, mentorship, and professional development for administrative professionals across the hospital. As one of two Independent Living Donor Advocates, she guides donor families through emotional and life-changing moments, offering clarity, comfort, and the kind of understanding that only comes from personal experience. Her quiet acts of kindness like comforting a worried spouse or welcoming patients with genuine warmth leave lasting imprints on those she meets. From organizing community drives and recognition initiatives to supporting Mercy Clinic’s mission in underserved zip codes, Audrey consistently channels her creativity and heart into service. She is a trusted partner to leaders, a champion for colleagues, and a beacon for patients and families navigating uncertainty. Audrey Lee doesn’t simply support her department she transforms it. Her resilience, compassion, and unwavering dedication make her the very embodiment of going “Above the Call.”



Finalists

	MEGAN BARTON Bishop-McCann		ZOILA CORDOVA Toyota Motor North America		KUMI CURRY Toyota Motor North America
	SUSAN DIMMITT Patriot Erectors		SHERRI MONSON Aligned Data Centers		D. NEWBY Catalyst Brands
	MARCELLA "MARCIE" SMITH Ever.Ag		SHAYNA STONOM Trinity Park Conservancy		LINDA TOM-QUINN Marsh McLennan Agency

Congratulations 2025 Nominees



Krislynn
Henderson
The Achiever



Melissa
Flores
Above the Call



Capucine
Sanders
Strategic Partnership



ACHIEVER AWARD

WINNER



TAMMY HAIN

EA TO CEO, CATALYST BRANDS

As Executive Assistant to the CEO of Catalyst Brands, now supporting six major brands and more than 70,000 associates, Tammy is the strategic force who brings clarity, order, and direction to some of the company’s most complex moments. Her role began with one brand, but when the JCPenney and SPARC merger formed Catalyst Brands, Tammy stepped instantly into a far larger arena and became the connective thread that aligned executives, EAs, and associates across four major offices nationwide. Her leadership ensured that operations stayed steady and communication stayed clear during one of the most transformative periods in company history. Tammy is known for thinking several steps ahead. She anticipates challenges before they surface, coordinates sensitive communication with precision, and protects executive bandwidth in ways that allow leadership to remain focused on enterprise priorities. From orchestrating large-scale leadership events and board meetings to managing confidential transitions, she brings calm, discipline, and unmatched mastery to every detail. Her influence extends well beyond her direct responsibilities. Tammy is a mentor, trainer, and champion for administrative professionals across Catalyst Brands. She identifies skill gaps, encourages professional learning, and helps elevate performance and standards throughout the EA

community. What sets Tammy apart is not only her capability but her character. She is steady under pressure, respected at every level, and trusted as both a partner and advisor. Her colleagues consistently describe her as the quiet powerhouse who holds teams together and lifts people higher.

Finalists



ROBERTHA BALROOPSINGH
DFW International Airport



LAUREN FAVARA
Bare Dermatology



KRISLYNN HENDERSON
Children's Health



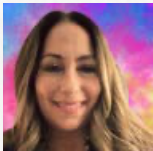
SARA LARCOMBE
TruePoint Communications



CORIE MORRIS
Granite Properties



CONNIE REYES
Toyota Motor Engineering & Manufacturing North America



JENNIFER RICARDY
Cisco Systems



ORIANA SIFONTES
Dallas College



EMMA SONCK
Dallas College

Congratulations!

At Catalyst Brands, our executive assistants are the backbone of our success, keeping our leaders focused, our teams connected, and our company moving forward. We’re proud to see their incredible work recognized.



JCPenney Brooks Brothers Eddie Bauer AÉROPOSTALE LUCKY BRAND NAUTICA Catalyst Brands



MarshMcLennan
Agency

MMA ♥s Dallas Admins!

At MMA, we know more than just insurance.

We know Dallas.

Marsh McLennan Agency (MMA) provides business insurance, employee health & benefits, retirement, and private client insurance solutions to organizations and individuals seeking limitless possibilities.

MarshMMA.com

Congratulations to our 2025 nominees!
We are honored to have you on our team.



Alexandria Martinez
The Achiever Award



Alicia Chavez
The Spirit Award



Andrea Gann
The Colleen Barrett Award



Candi Taylor
The Above the Call, Achiever, Colleen Barrett & Spirit Award



Christian Lopez
The Above the Call & The Colleen Barrett Award



Christina Uhl
The Colleen Barrett Award



Connie Reyes
The Achiever Award



Ellie Suzuki
The Above the Call Award



Gabriella Fordiani
The Colleen Barrett & The Leadership Award



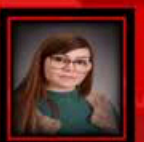
Hiromi Wald
The Above the Call Award



Joy Hackney
The Above the Call & The Colleen Barrett Award



Keisha Anderson
The Achiever Award



Kirsten Callahan
The Spirit Award



Kristine Jones
The Leadership Award



Kumi Curry
The Above the Call & The Achiever Award



Lynita Cook
The Spirit Award



Lynna Barnes
The Above the Call, Achiever, Colleen Barrett & Leadership Award



Mandi Hudson
The Above the Call Award



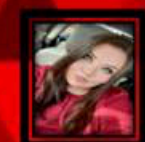
Marissa Mittelstadt
The Colleen Barrett Award



Miho Kiriya
The Loyalty Award



Natercia Lau
The Above the Call Award



Paige Jamison
The Above the Call & The Colleen Barrett Award



Rebecca Bailey
The Achiever & Leadership Award



Rie Burke
The Above the Call Award



Stephanie Jacobs
The Above the Call Award



Zoila Cordova
The Above the Call Award



THANK YOU

We want to send a huge thank you to the dynamic administrative staff of **The Potter's House** and **T.D. Jakes Ministries**! You are the heartbeat of our organization. Your tireless efforts and administrative excellence do not go unnoticed. Thank you for all that you do every day!



CELEBRATING OUR ADMIN AWARD WINNERS

CONGRATULATIONS FROM YOUR ELBIT AMERICA FAMILY

» WENDI BACON, AMY THOMPSON, AND TIFFANY ASHFORD

ELBIT AMERICA





ADMINISTRATIVE EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD







CASSANDRA DAVIS

PROJECT MANAGER, PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT SERVICES INCORPORATED

Some workplaces rely on their Administrative Professionals for order. At Fort Hood, lives, safety, and the dignity of work depend on them. This is where Cassandra Davis shines. As the leader of a small but mighty administrative team within the Law Enforcement Records Division at Fort Hood, Cassandra carries responsibilities that reach far beyond routine office operations. Her team processes thousands of police reports, background checks, FOIA requests, and critical records that support nearly 1,000 law enforcement personnel serving a military community of more than 70,000 people. The work requires accuracy, discretion, empathy, and unshakable steadiness. Cassandra brings all of these qualities to her role every day. What makes her leadership extraordinary is how she elevates a team composed entirely of individuals with significant disabilities. With compassion and skill, she has transformed the department through cross training, tailored development programs, and a culture of belonging. Under her guidance, the team now achieves a 95 percent accuracy rate, far exceeding government requirements, and retention has soared as team members increasingly see a meaningful career pathway ahead of them. Cassandra also lifts her team beyond the office walls. She has organized food drives, coat drives, and personal giving campaigns that brought comfort to families and individuals in crisis. Her belief that public service extends into the community has united her team in purpose and pride. Cassandra Davis embodies what it means to serve with excellence, humanity, and heart.



Finalists

	VICTORIA ANDREWS Army & Air Force Exchange Service		MELISSA FLORES Children's Health		KAREN GONZALEZ City Of Dallas
	PORCHAE GREEN Baylor Scott & White Health		TANYA JACKSON UT Southwestern Medical Center		ROLANDA PRICE Dallas College





LEADERSHIP AWARD

WINNER



BRYNNE PINHO

EXECUTIVE ADMIN, LIQUIDAGENTS HEALTHCARE

Brynne Pinho leads the way many of the best Administrative Professionals do, with steady excellence, quiet authority, and a deep commitment to the success of others. For more than three years at LiquidAgents Healthcare, Brynne has been the constant behind the moments that bring people together and the systems that keep the business moving forward. She supports the CFO with seamless coordination and trusted judgment, yet her influence reaches far beyond any single role. Brynne is the person colleagues turn to when the stakes are high or the details are complex. She anticipates needs early, solves problems thoroughly, and steps in without hesitation wherever support is needed. That leadership shows up in every department she touches, from finance and compliance to human resources, billing, payroll, and workers’ compensation. Her background as a licensed nurse adds another layer of confidence. When emergencies arise, people know they are safe in her care. What sets Brynne apart is how she builds culture through action. She founded and leads the Fun Committee, creating celebrations and traditions that make employees feel seen and valued. She has organized company retreats, large-scale events, and meaningful recognition moments that strengthen morale and connection across teams. She also guides the company’s charitable engagement, including major fundraising efforts for Susan G. Komen and Ronald McDonald House, inspiring others to serve alongside her. Brynne leads by example every day. She brings clarity in chaos, heart to every interaction, and a standard of professionalism that lifts everyone around her. She is a leader in the truest sense, and a deserving recipient of the Leadership Award.

Finalists



LYNNA BARNES
Toyota Motor Manufacturing
Kentucky



ANNETTE CHESTNUT
Buckner International



MEG GEISER
American Airlines



STACEY JONES
Catalyst Brands



MIA M. LANE
UKG



CAROLINA MATTHEWS
Harwood International



SARA SCHULTZ
City Of Mansfield



MOLLY TISCHLER
Southwest Airlines



KAYLAH WAGONER
AT&T

Congratulations
Davette on your
nomination!

From your Q2 family



Davette Quinones
Executive Assistant,
Corporate Infrastructure, Q2



Celebrating Excellence in Administration

Ryan congratulates Carla Curtis and Paula Taylor on their nominations for the 2025 Admin Awards.

As the world’s largest Firm dedicated to business tax, we are committed to excellence, innovation, and client service. Carla and Paula embody these values through their dedication to our team and clients.

We’re proud to have them on our team and even prouder to celebrate this well-earned recognition.

Carla Curtis (left), Paula Taylor (right)

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THE LOYALTY AWARD









DAWN DEARSTONE

OFFICE MANAGER AND EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE CEO, IMPROVING

Dawn Dearstone is the steady heartbeat of Improving, a presence whose loyalty has shaped the culture of the Dallas office for more than a decade. With 28 years of administrative experience, including 12 years at Improving, Dawn brings consistency, warmth, and a deep sense of responsibility to everything she touches. She supports our CEO and President with exceptional organization and calm under pressure, anticipating needs long before they surface and keeping pace with a growing, fast moving organization. Her loyalty shows up in countless ways. Dawn keeps the Dallas office running smoothly for more than 150 employees, manages long standing vendor relationships, and acts as a trusted resource for colleagues across our 2,000 person organization. If something is needed, Dawn finds it, fixes it, or figures out how to make it happen. Her reliability is woven into every corner of our operation. One of Dawn’s most enduring contributions is her leadership of our annual company retreat. For more than 11 years she has planned and executed this four day event, transforming it from a small gathering into a world class experience that brings hundreds of employees together. Her attention to detail, grace under pressure, and unwavering dedication make the retreat a highlight of the year. Dawn also strengthens our community by coordinating multiple user groups in our office each month, creating an environment where professionals feel welcome and supported. Her loyalty is felt in every interaction. Dawn is not only the backbone of our operations but a trusted, steady presence who makes Improving better every day. Dawn Dearstone embodies what the Loyalty Award is meant to honor. She has been a steady, irreplaceable force through years of growth and change, and Improving is stronger, warmer, and more connected because of her.



Finalists

	<div>RIE BURKE</div> <div>Toyota Motor North America</div>		<div>PAM CHRISTIAN</div> <div>Catalyst Brands</div>		<div>ANGELA CORDRAY</div> <div>Baylor Scott & White Health</div>
	<div>ERNESTINE FIELDS</div> <div>Texas Health Resources</div>		<div>MIHO KIRIYAMA</div> <div>TMNA R&D - York</div>		<div>DEBRA LECKIE</div> <div>Cisco Systems</div>
	<div>MICHELLE VASQUEZ</div> <div>Dallas College</div>		<div>JANE WILLIAMS</div> <div>Southwest Airlines</div>		



Susan Dimmitt

Division Office Administrator,
Patriot Erectors

Susan embodies the qualities of a world-class administrative professional: **proactive, efficient, adaptable, and deeply compassionate.**

*SolomonEdwards congratulates the 2025
Dallas Fort Worth Admin Awards nominees!*

Thank you for your dedication, talent, and the immense impact that you bring to organizations in the community.



CONGRATULATIONS

We are
Dallas College
Proud of our
2025
Admin Award
Nominees.



Rolanda Price
Sandie Burns
Muñeca Torres-Rivera
Sunshine Wayne
Rijena Jackson
Oriana Sifontes
Tiara Stanley
Michelle Vasquez
Dennis Frazier
Thelwray Perry
Michael Arredondo



Congratulations to our nominees

Debra Leckie

Nominated for the Leadership & Loyalty Award

Hollye Taylor

Nominated for the Spirit Award

Jennifer Ricardy

Nominated for the Achiever Award

Linda Suri

Nominated for the Achiever Award

We celebrate your outstanding achievements and the remarkable impact you make each day.
Your excellence, commitment, and leadership are good as gold.
To all the incredible administrative professionals being recognized today –
THANK YOU for everything you do.

Cisco Confidential

Southwest® is proud to support the Admin Awards.

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25,000 bonus points per qualifying referral (max. 5) if requirements met. Terms and conditions apply. All Rapid Rewards® rules and regulations apply and can be found at Southwest.com/rrterms.

Southwest



THE SPIRIT AWARD

WINNER



SHELIA EAGLIN

EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, LINK LOGISTICS REAL ESTATE

Shelia Eaglin is the spirit of the Link Logistics Dallas office. She shows up every day with an infectious positivity that lifts the entire team, and she pairs that energy with flawless execution. If you’ve worked with Shelia, you’ve felt the difference she makes not just in how smoothly the office runs, but in how supported and connected people feel because she is there. Shelia manages the Dallas office with unmatched dedication, serving senior leadership, mid-level managers, and a large regional team with equal care. She coordinates travel, expense reports, broker and market events, office operations, and team-building activities and she does it all with professionalism, grace, and a steady “we’ve got this” attitude. Colleagues consistently describe her as reliable, approachable, and the person everyone naturally turns to when something needs to get done right. What makes Shelia a Spirit Award standout is how she brings heart to everything. She is a culture carrier who makes people feel valued, welcomed, & proud to be part of Link. She leads with service in and outside the office organizing food shelter & volunteer initiatives, championing Minnie’s Food Pantry (helping secure \$100,000 in grants),

and energizing volunteers for CoreGiving Day at the North Texas Food Bank. She also serves as the 2025 ASCEND Central Region Lead, planning meaningful programs that strengthen connection and inclusion across the team. Through every challenge including the toughest days of COVID Shelia remained a consistent, uplifting presence. She never complains, always finds a solution, and brings joy to the work of everyone around her. She embodies excellence, service, and the kind of spirit that makes a workplace feel like a community. Shelia Eaglin is richly deserving of the Spirit Award.

Finalists



LINDSAY ALLEN
FiberLight



CARLA CURTIS
Ryan, LLC



CYNTHIA DIAZ RODRIGUEZ
Baylor Scott & White All Saints Medical Center



ANDREW FOLKMAN
Catalyst Brands



BETHANY OLSON
Nobilis Group



DAVETTE QUINONES
Q2



SARAH RENDON-TILOTTA
U.S. Energy Development Corporation



LESLIE WINSMANN
Proper Roofing & Remodeling



Congratulations

Robertha Balroopsingh - DFW Airport

Robertha Balroopsingh has been named a Finalist for the Achiever Award at the Admin Awards Gala – Dallas Fort Worth & Southwest Region. Her unwavering dedication, pursuit of excellence, and inspiring leadership continue to make a lasting impact. Congratulations, Robertha — your light shines brightly!

CONGRATULATIONS

Carolina Matthews

We’re thrilled to celebrate Carolina for her nomination for the prestigious 2025 Admin Awards! 🌟

Her dedication, commitment, and the way she keeps everything running seamlessly truly set her apart. Carolina is the glue that holds our team together — an incredible leader and an essential part of the Harwood Family. We couldn’t be prouder and can’t wait to see her shine even brighter! 🌟



HARWOOD
INTERNATIONAL



THE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AWARD

ABBY BAUTISTA

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT, DALLAS COLLEGE

Abby Bautista is the definition of a strategic partner. Far beyond traditional administrative support, she operates as an extension of leadership for the School of Health Sciences aligning people, processes, and priorities with Dallas College’s mission of student success. As Executive Assistant and supervisor of a nine-person administrative team, Abby supports the Vice Provost, Dean of Operations and multiple programs while leading a high-performing admin team that serves faculty, staff, and students across the School. She is the critical bridge between leadership and frontline operations translating vision into clear action plans, coaching her team, and ensuring information flows smoothly in all directions. Abby routinely steps into complex or broken processes and turns them into reliable, sustainable systems. From transforming clinic and program operations to coordinating large-scale events like Return Week, she anticipates needs, resolves issues before they escalate, and creates structure that allows academic leaders to focus on strategy instead of logistics. Her leadership is deeply people-centered. She mentors newer admins, runs regular training and skills workshops, and fosters a culture where ideas are welcomed and problems are solved collaboratively. Faculty and deans consistently describe her as their “go-to” partner calm under pressure, solutions-focused, and relentlessly dependable. A proud Dallas College alum and first-generation Mexican American, Abby brings lived experience, resilience, & heart to everything she does. She doesn’t just support the work of the School of Health Sciences she strengthens its impact.



Finalists



DANIELLE BAITX
MOJO Car Wash



TONYA BEASLEY
Dallas College



AIMEE KELTON
U.S. Energy Development Corporation



ABIGAIL MEJIA
Catalyst Brands



MOLLY OCAMPO
Marsh McLennan Agency



CAPUCINE SANDERS
Children's Health



BRITTANY WHITWORTH
American Airlines

Congratulations to this year’s Admin Awards Nominees!

Your dedication, precision, and professionalism keep organizations running seamlessly.

At Urbanride, we’re proud to support the teams who make excellence look effortless.



2025
ADMIN
AWARDS®

Tailored chauffeur service
anywhere in the world
www.urbanride.com



THE TOYOTA KAIZEN AWARD

WINNER



KATHY ADAMS

BUSINESS SUPPORT SPECIALIST, WTW

Kathy Adams is a continuous improvement engine wrapped in an administrative title. She does not just perform her role, she redesigns how the role creates value for the entire organization and the global admin community. At WTW, Kathy is a trusted strategic partner who manages complex workflows, billing and compliance across regions while constantly looking for a better, smarter way to work. She helped lead the transition to a streamlined digital onboarding system for the Work & Rewards team, cutting processing time by 40% and improving the experience for new colleagues. When new tools and workflows are introduced, Kathy is often the first to master them, then turns that knowledge into practical training, templates and guidance for others. Her largest “kaizen” achievement is founding and growing Admin Angels and Black Admin Connection, global networks now serving hundreds of administrative professionals across multiple continents. These communities provide mentorship, skills training and shared best practices that directly improve onboarding efficiency, leadership productivity, business continuity and culture. She also serves as an AI champion

and cybersecurity champion, translating complex topics into clear, usable practices that make teams safer and more effective in real time. Kathy’s improvement mindset is always paired with inclusion. She designs programs that elevate overlooked voices, builds safe spaces for Black and multicultural admins and uses her platform to advocate for recognition and career advancement across the profession. Kathy Adams embodies Kaizen: she observes, innovates, tests, refines and then scales what works.

Finalists



CRISTY DILLINGHAM
Southwest Airlines



KRYSTAL MECHLING
XM Performance



KAREN STEWARD
Interstate Batteries

GREATNESS RECOGNIZED

Congratulations to all the DFW Admin Awards Winners and Nominees

We were truly privileged to host and deeply honored to recognize these extraordinary individuals

HYATT REGENCY
DALLAS

Aimee Kelton
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Sarah Rendon-Tilotta
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Congratulations

**TO OUR 2025 DFW
ADMIN AWARD NOMINEES!**

Your dedication to U.S. Energy continues to make a meaningful difference in our success and workplace culture. We're honored to have you both as part of our organization.

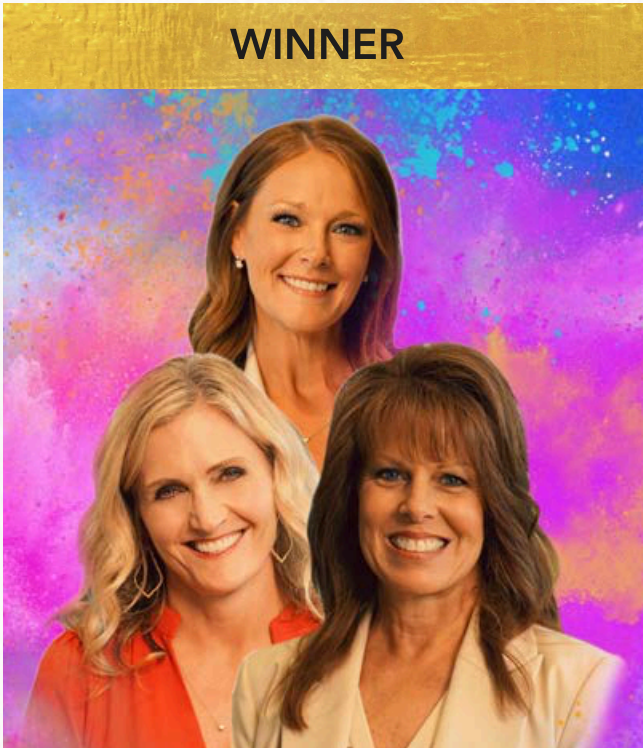


THE TEAM ACHIEVER AWARD

THE POWERHOUSE TRIO

ELBIT AMERICA

Wendi, Tiffany and Amy are known across Elbit America as the Powerhouse Trio, a seamless unit whose work is essential to the success of the company’s most senior leaders. Supporting the CEO, CFO, CTO, CHRO, Chief Growth Officer and General Counsel is a massive responsibility, yet this team carries it with precision, calm and a unity that sets them apart. Their impact is seen everywhere. They manage complex calendars, plan important board and leadership meetings, coordinate high profile events and run executive travel with flawless foresight. When the leadership team is on the road, the trio is already a step ahead, arranging drivers, monitoring flight changes and resolving hotel issues before the executives even know there is a problem. Their ability to anticipate needs and eliminate friction ensures that the business can maintain momentum without interruption. Their teamwork is extraordinary. They communicate openly, support one another fully and work without ego or competition. That harmony creates stability in the executive office and allows leaders to stay focused on strategy rather than logistics. One of their finest moments came during a major international crisis when several executives and more than a dozen employees were stranded in the Middle East. Without being asked, the trio coordinated evacuation routes, rerouted executives, worked with security teams and travel partners and stayed engaged around the clock until every colleague and family member was safely home. It was a mission that required courage, clarity and absolute trust. Wendi, Tiffany and Amy are more than an administrative team. They are a strategic force whose excellence, unity and reliability strengthen the entire organization.



Winner Names

- WENDI BACON
- TIFFANY ASHFORD
- AMY THOMPSON

Finalists



**PLANO OFFICE EA TEAM,
CATALYST BRANDS**

Sabrina Braxton, Meg Wilson, Lisa Carlin, Laura Warrington, D. Newby, Tammy Hain, Sherry Temple, Robin Englert, Abigail Mejia, Angie Steele, Stacey Jones



**FORT HOOD ADMINISTRATIVE
SERVICES, PROFESSIONAL
CONTRACT SERVICES
INCORPORATED**

Jennifer Hughes, Bobbie Jean Palomo, Cassandra Davis, Jeannette Ballestas, Marisol Rosario-Bruno, Kenneth Prust



**SCHOOL OF MIT ADMIN
SUPPORT, DALLAS COLLEGE**

KeArra Fobb, Velora Mann, Jacqueline Laster, Lennie Whitehead



**EXECUTIVE SUPPORT
COLLABORATIVE TEAM, DALLAS
COLLEGE**

Dennis Frazier, Sunshine Wayne, Michael Arredondo, Sandie Burns, Thelwray Perry



At Applied Materials, the work we do together advances the world’s technology.

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FOUNDERS AWARD



The Founder’s Award celebrates leaders who are intentional about the work environment they create for Administrative Professionals, because after fourteen years of running this program, we’ve learned something important: You can have a great company culture, but that doesn’t always mean you have a great culture for your Admins. This award honors the leaders who do. It’s for those who don’t just employ Administrative Professionals, but elevate them building career paths instead of ceilings, making growth and development a promise instead of a privilege, and understanding that when

Ross Paterson is that kind of leader. He’s the leader who brews coffee for his team in the morning and sends his Admin on a solo night away (on his dime) to reflect on not just what they’re doing, but who they’re becoming. The leader who ensures they have a seat at the table. Who turns ride-alongs into masterclasses on life, leadership, and customer impact insisting that his Admin experience the work they influence, not just imagine it.

His Admins now live by the wisdom he pours into them:

- “You have permission.”
- “That’s your superpower.”
- “Move before you’re ready.”
- “Cresso, not stressso - grow, don’t stress

One Admin said, “His graciousness is scattered around my life like little flower petals.” Another wrote, “You feel important talking with him. Like he knows something magnificent about you that you haven’t yet seen.” Under his leadership, Admins have doubled their salaries, earned certifications, and built careers they never imagined possible. At a time when many Administrative Professionals are being asked to justify their existence, Ross Paterson uses every opportunity to remind them of their greatness. **Congratulations to Ross Paterson of XM Performance, the 2025 Founder’s Award recipient.**

CONGRATULATIONS LESLIE WINSMANN

Proper Roofing proudly thanks our Chief Administrative Officer for her outstanding leadership, integrity, and vision. Your dedication and compassion embody our core values and have fostered a culture where everyone can grow, succeed, and feel inspired every day.



LESLIE WINSMANN, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER



Team Spirit Winner - Toyota Motor North America



Good As Gold Outfit Winner - Tyrone Naylor



Congratulations to Our
2025 Admin Award Nominee!

Your unwavering commitment to FiberLight
continues to elevate our organization.



THANKS!

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