

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Mid-Ohio Development Exchange Members Pass Membership Creed

(Columbus, OH) — In the spirit of regional cooperation, the members of the Mid-Ohio Development Exchange (MODE) unanimously approved a Membership Creed, outlining professional conduct for its members within the central Ohio region, on Thursday, January 18 at its annual meeting. The group consists of many central Ohio economic development professionals.

MODE's 2006 President Jim Schimmer, also the Franklin County director of economic development, stated the Creed's drafting and passage stands as a defining accomplishment for MODE in 2006.

"The MODE board of directors was passionate about taking the first step within the region to announce our commitment as economic development professionals to move as a cohesive unit toward working together for the region as a whole without causing undue harm to individual communities within our network," Schimmer said. "The Creed affirms our daily profession conduct, and will only make MODE and the region's economic development initiatives stronger."

Virginia Barney, Upper Arlington City Manager and MORPC Board President also added, "I am very encouraged by the adoption and execution of the MODE Membership Creed. This document represents a step forward in regional cooperation and collaboration. Through regional initiatives, Central Ohio has the opportunity to strengthen its economic development activities which in turn will strengthen the communities in which we all live and work."

Established in 1995, MODE is the regional economic development organization for the mid-Ohio region. MODE was founded to facilitate attracting new businesses to the area, to work with existing businesses on retention and expansion needs, to improve the education and training of development professionals and to address issues that effect the development and business community. It provides opportunities for collaboration in the areas of education and marketing, and provides networking opportunities for economic development professionals on a regular basis. The membership includes municipalities, counties, and other public sector communities and organizations from throughout this region. Additionally, private sector businesses and utility providers also make up the associate memberships of this group.

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