



Mark Sanford
Governor

SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Joe E. Taylor, Jr.
Secretary

For Immediate Release

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Lancaster County Business Leader Honored by Gov. Sanford and DOC

COLUMBIA, S.C. – September 15, 2008 – J. Flint McNaughton was honored as Ambassadors for Economic Development by Gov. Mark Sanford and the Department of Commerce as part of South Carolina's 18th Annual Industry Appreciation Week. The ceremony took place in Columbia on Monday, September 15 at the Governor's Mansion Complex and highlighted 49 individuals from 46 counties for their exceptional efforts to bolster community and economic development activities in South Carolina.

"From day one, we have been committed to bettering the business environment to encourage economic growth among existing business and attract new investments to South Carolina. Fundamental reforms like workers' comp reform, tort reform and income tax relief have increased our state's competitive edge and provided fertile ground for businesses to grow, invest and create jobs here. Our state's successes could not be achieved without the help and efforts of community and business leaders in every corner of the state and today we say thank to these ambassadors for economic development for their efforts to create jobs and economic opportunity in South Carolina," said Gov. Mark Sanford.

"From day one, our administration has been committed to improving the business climate so that businesses can prosper. Efforts like workers' comp reform, tort reform, and income tax relief have paid real dividends in our state's ability to compete," said Gov. Sanford. "I'd give real credit as well to the individuals who have gone above and beyond to encourage growth in their respective communities. South Carolina thanks them for their efforts to create jobs and economic opportunity throughout the state."

J. Flint McNaughton directs acquisition, development, construction and operations in the Southeast for Lauth Property Group, one of the nation's leading development and construction companies. Mr. McNaughton also serves as a leader of Lauth's National Facilities Group and is a member of the company's Executive Forum and Capital Committee. Mr. McNaughton's career in commercial real estate includes the execution of more than 10 million square feet of development and brokerage transactions in 38 states, including company headquarters, distribution warehouses, medical offices and retail projects. Mr. McNaughton meets regularly with prospects and is very involved in industrial and business park development in Lancaster County. Mr. McNaughton received his bachelor's degree in economics from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

"Businesses small and large have contributed greatly to South Carolina's economy with investments, job creation and community involvement. This is a week to recognize the contributions of businesses, industries and community leaders for their continued commitment to growing economic opportunity in South Carolina. These ambassador's have given their energy above and beyond to enhance our communities and make South Carolina a better place to live and work," said Joe Taylor, Secretary of Commerce.

Each year the Department of Commerce joins local communities to thank business and industry for its vital contributions to South Carolina's economy. The Department of Commerce kicks off Industry Appreciation Week each year by recognizing Ambassadors for Economic Development. These individuals include local leaders from the private sector representing a variety of businesses and economic development organizations committed to securing new jobs and investment in their communities.

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