



# News Release

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**For Release On:**  
January 27, 2003

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## Terry Neese Named to National Women's Business Council

**Washington, DC** – Terry Neese, President of Terry Neese Personnel Services and President of Women Impacting Public Policy, has been appointed to a three-year term on the National Women's Business Council.

The National Women's Business Council is a bi-partisan Federal government council created to serve as an independent source of advice and counsel to the President, Congress, and the U.S. Small Business Administration on economic issues of importance to women business owners. Members of the Council are prominent women business owners and leaders of women's business organizations. The Council is committed to:

- *Conducting* research on issues of importance to women business owners and their organizations;
- *Communicating* these findings widely;
- *Connecting* the women's business community to public policy makers; and
- Providing programs and platforms for *change* in order to expand and improve opportunities for women business owners and their enterprises.

"I have great respect for Terry's abilities as both a woman business owner and as a national leader in women's business advocacy," said Marilyn Carlson Nelson, Chairman and CEO of Carlson Companies and Chair of the National Women's Business Council. "I'm confident Terry's contribution to the Council will be significant. I look forward to working with her and the other Council members to foster the growth of women-owned enterprises."

As the nation's advocate for the more than 9 million women-owned businesses in the U.S., the Council's upcoming agenda will include promoting: increased access to affordable health care; access to capital; access to federal contracts and international markets; and access to the information and expertise women business owners most need to succeed. The Council will expand its outreach efforts to regional, state and local women's business organizations

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and networks to involve as many women entrepreneurs as possible in its public policy initiatives.

Neese made history in 1990 as the first woman nominated by a major political party for Lt. Governor of Oklahoma. Prior to that historic campaign, Terry founded Terry Neese Personnel Services, which celebrated 25 years in business in July 2000. An entrepreneur of five companies anchored by the personnel industry, her revenues exceed \$10 million. One of her companies, GrassRoots Impact, is a corporate and public policy strategies firm, which specializes in developing communications strategies for corporations and government agencies working to reach women and minorities in business. Neese also founded Women Impacting Public Policy, a national bi-partisan public policy organization advocating for women in businesses. She represents the organization's more than 300,000 women business owners and women in business on Capitol Hill and testifies on a regular basis before U.S. Congress and the Administration.

"My goal on the Council will be focused on advocating for issues that will have a positive impact on women-owned businesses," said Neese. "Issues like Association Health Plans, tax relief, and more access to government contracts are key to the sustained growth of the women-owned business community. In addition, voter education and awareness are critical components to the success of this community."

Women business owners currently represent almost 38% of all U.S. firms, with a growth rate twice that of all businesses. They employ one out of every four company workers and contribute \$3.6 trillion in annual revenues.

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