



Words to Live By: Trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**JOE BLAKE, PRESIDENT OF THE DENVER METRO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED EAGLE SCOUT AWARD**

DENVER, COLO – February 20, 2009 – Joe Blake has been awarded the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award upon nomination by the Denver Area Council and the Boy Scouts of America. This award is granted to Eagle Scouts who, after 25 years, have distinguished themselves in their life work and who have shared their talents with their communities on a voluntary basis. Joe Blake received his Eagle Scout Award from Troop 10 on January 15, 1952 in Denver, Colorado. Joe will be recognized at the Eagle Scout Recognition Banquet on Friday, February 20, 2009, along with 453 Scouts in the Denver Metro Area for achieving Eagle Scout at the Renaissance Hotel located at 3801 Quebec Street at 6:30pm.

Joe has distinguished himself through his career and through his continued service to his country and other people by following the principles of the Scout Oath and Law through meeting the community service needs through his voluntary actions. Joe Blake has served as President and CEO of the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, Colorado's largest business organization dedicated to economic vitality and quality of life, since 1999. Through his role at the Chamber, Joe has focused on statewide leadership and stewardship of Colorado's economy, competitiveness and business climate. Joe currently serves as vice-chairman of the Board of Governors of the Colorado State University system. He recently completed service on Governor Bill Ritter's Blue Ribbon Transportation Finance and Implementation Panel. As a panel member, Joe traveled to meetings across the state to discuss the transportation funding, maintenance and safety challenges facing Colorado. Joe has chaired the Colorado Transportation Commission and the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority.

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In 2005, Blake received the American Jewish Committee National Human Relations Award and an Honorary Doctorate of Business Administration from Johnson & Wales University.

Additionally, in recognition for his record of service and contributions to the community, Blake has received several awards: HBA Builder of the Year Award, the University of Colorado Law School's Executive in Business Award, and the University of Colorado Graduate School of Public Affairs Public Service Award. He was a member of the Denver Metro Chamber Foundation's first Leadership Denver class and received the Henry M. Porter Award for community leadership from the PorterCare Foundation.

The National Eagle Scout Association Committee, under the direction of Alumni Relationships, National Office, Boy Scouts of America, selects the recipients of this award. The members of the selection committee are all recipients of the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award.

The Distinguished Eagle Scout Award was implemented in 1969 and since that time approximately 1,785 nominations have been approved. Only the local council of the Eagle Scout's principal residence may nominate. The Denver Area Council, Boy Scouts of America proudly honors Joe Blake with The National Distinguished Eagle Scout Award. Thank you Joe for all you have done in our community!

About Denver Boy Scouts

The Denver Area Council serves over 60,000 youth through the assistance and mentorship of over 10,000 adult volunteers. The Denver Area Council continues its nearly 100-year tradition of strengthening youth and their families through the delivery of time-honored Scouting programs. The Boy Scouts of America provides youth the opportunity to try new things, provide services to others, build self-confidence, and reinforce ethical standards. Scouting prepares young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law.

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