



INTERNATIONAL  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COUNCIL

*The Power of Knowledge and Leadership*

734 15th Street NW / Suite 900  
Phone: (202) 223-7800  
Fax: (202) 223-4745  
[www.iedconline.org](http://www.iedconline.org)

## *Media Release*

For Immediate Release  
October 8, 2009

Contact: Erin Way, Media Relations  
(202) 942-9474, [eway@iedconline.org](mailto:eway@iedconline.org)  
Cara Rousseau, The Research Triangle Park  
(919) 433-1669, [rousseau@rtp.org](mailto:rousseau@rtp.org)

### **VETERAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPER RICK WEDDLE RECEIVES LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

*Weddle Recognized for Enduring Dedication to  
Facilitation of Economic Growth*

Acknowledging Rick Weddle—President and CEO of the Research Triangle Foundation of North Carolina, Research Triangle Park—for his time-tested dedication to the industry, the International Economic Development Council (IEDC) presented him with its 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Economic Development in Honor of Edward DeLuca, at IEDC's Annual Conference. The conference took place in Reno, Nevada, October 4-7 and, with an audience of peers and admirers in attendance, Mr. Weddle was recognized for his achievements with the highly acclaimed bestowal during an awards ceremony.

"The Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes an individual who has consistently exemplified the highest standards of professional excellence throughout his or her career in the economic development field," said Ian Bromley, IEDC chair. "This is one of the most prestigious honors in our industry, and Mr. Weddle is, without question, deserving of this acknowledgement."

Intensity. Integrity. Innovation. These three words describe Rick Weddle's 28+ year career as an economic developer and change agent in various regions and cities around the U.S. Throughout his tenure as a practitioner, he has exhibited exemplary performance and leadership in the economic development profession and has led efforts that have had a significant impact on the communities and stakeholders involved. In addition, he has modeled the way for peers, using his career to set a new standard for the profession and raise the bar as to what it means to be an economic developer. As President and CEO of the Research Triangle Foundation of North Carolina—owner and developer of the renowned Research Triangle Park (RTP)—he is charged with overseeing Park

operations and development, and is setting the strategic direction for RTP's future. Under his leadership to date, the Park's success has surpassed its historic performance. Since 2004, RTP has generated successful development projects with projected capital investment of over \$800 million and the projected creation of over 6,300 new, high-quality jobs.

During his career in economic development, Mr. Weddle has utilized his skills in a diverse range of communities, working to attract companies and create jobs, improving the business climate of regions, and setting other regions apart for their best practices and know-how to strengthen their competitive positions in uncertain economic times.

Because of his tremendous, lifelong work in economic development, the International Economic Development Council is proud to award Rick L. Weddle with the 2009 Lifetime Achievement Award for Excellence in Economic Development in Honor of Edward DeLuca.

### **The International Economic Development Council (IEDC)**

IEDC is headquartered in Washington, DC. Its mission is to provide leadership and excellence in economic development for communities, members and partners. IEDC's professional economic development awards annually recognize excellence in the economic development profession.

### **The Research Triangle Park**

One of the oldest and largest science parks in North America, The Research Triangle Park (RTP) is a 7,000 acre development that is home to more than 170 companies employing over 42,000 full-time knowledge workers and an estimated 10,000 contract employees. Located at the core of the Raleigh-Durham-Cary CSA (Combined Statistical Area), RTP is a globally prominent high-technology research and development center that serves as an economic driver for the region.

# # #