

TexasEDConnection News

END OF YEAR



Day One
Celebrates
5 Years!



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FLAT FIVE
MARKETING

Thank you Flat Five Marketing for sponsoring the great prizes!!!



Thank you to all those who helped us celebrate our 5th anniversary! and to our partners who helped us make the dream a reality! A big shout out to Jay Daily at HPM for sponsoring!

Events



February 13

@ 1 PM / Partner Kickoff Meeting



Mark your calendars for our **Partner Kickoff Meeting**. This event is to recap the previous year's wins, reveal the 2025 calendar, and much more!



Partner Referral And Renewal

Thank you to the many partners who have already renewed your partnership or signed up for 2025. If you haven't already done so, please return your renewal for 2025 ASAP! For every referral that becomes a partner, we will send you a special thank-you gift.

2025 Coffee Talk Schedule

- January 24
- February 28
- March 28
- April 25
- May 23
- June 27
- July 25
- August 29
- September 26
- October 24
- November 21

We are lining up some incredible speakers for 2025! Don't miss your opportunity to speak with authors, mentors and economic development game changers! If you haven't already done so, don't forget to log into the partner portal to watch past episodes.



Save The Date!

Rural Economic Development Summit taking place July 29-July 31, 2025. Our exciting host city for our 2025 gathering is Canyon, Texas. The event will be held at the beautiful Canyon ISD Event Center and other special locations. The 2025 Stand Up Rural America Summit will feature more than 20 nationally renowned subject matter experts and successful economic development practitioners. Partners get **\$50.00 off registration** by entering **SURADAYONE2025**. Go to <https://www.standupruralamerica.com/>

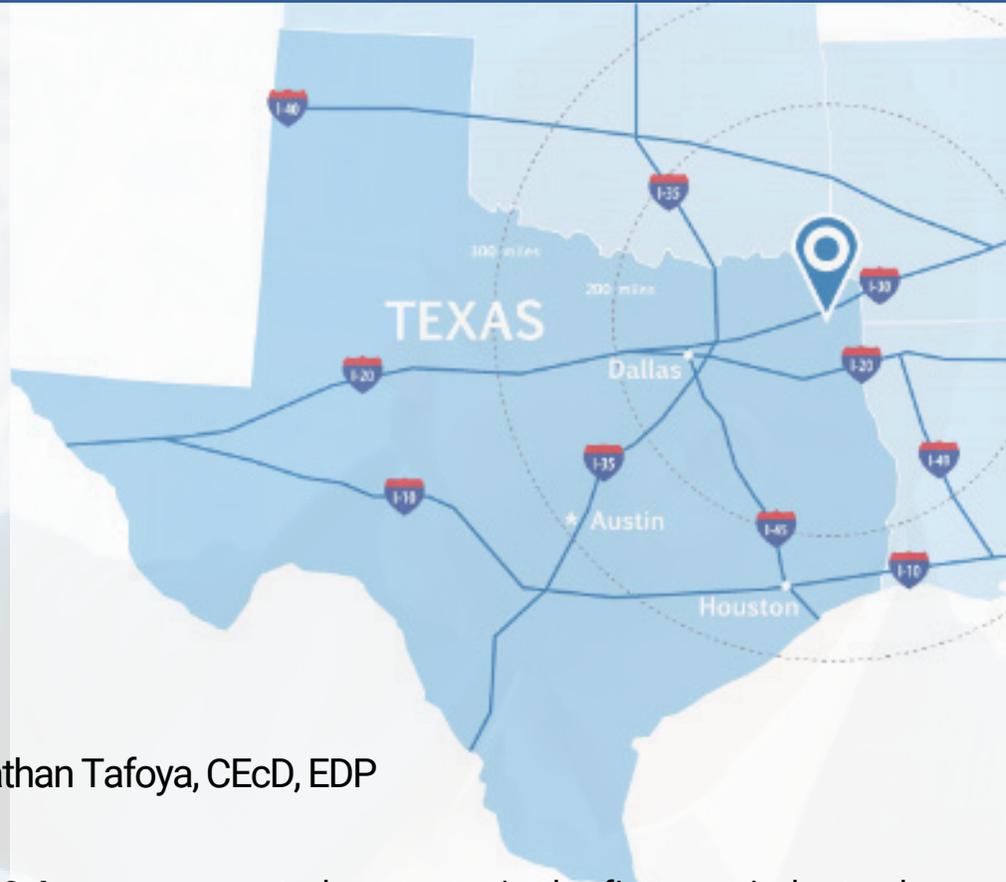


Marketing News

Congratulations Mount Pleasant!



Nathan Tafoya, CEcD, EDP



We are excited to announce that **300 Arms**, a respected company in the firearms industry, has chosen **Mt. Pleasant, Texas**, as the site for its new location!

Known for their commitment to quality craftsmanship and innovative designs, 300 Arms brings a wealth of experience and dedication to their community.

Thanks to Nathan Tafoya and Janeth Moreno for being onsite to answer their questions and confirm their decision to move to Mt. Pleasant.

Here is what the owner had to say

*"It's been a crazy adventure, but an amazing crazy. Definitely moving to Texas in general and **Mount Pleasant specifically was the best thing for our business and our family... We feel very welcomed and invited in the community.**"*

The Best Of Texas Bus Tour 2025

Thank You Sponsors!

Huntsville, Henderson, Marshall, Kilgore, Gainesville,
Jacksonville/ Fort Worth Billy Bob's Sponsor, Iron Root
Distillery/Denison, Stone Hollow Homes/Sherman,
Melissa, Fairview, Wylie, Plano, UT Dallas, Site Selection
Magazine

Watch the Recap Video



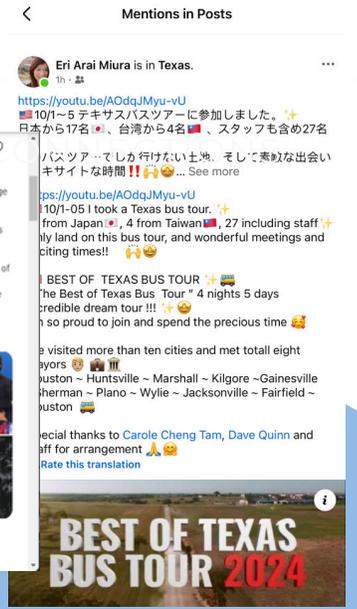
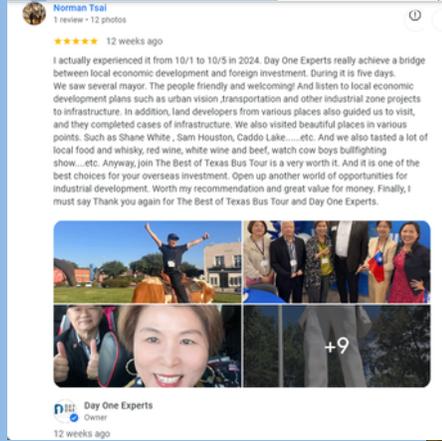
[CLICK HERE](#)



Feedback From Bus Tour



Wylie SWAG bag goes international



The feedback is in, and we're thrilled to announce the success of Day One Expert's first-ever bus tour, bringing together brokers, vendors, and business owners from Taiwan and Japan!

Why FDI?

Our mission is to play the long game with FDI initiatives by building lasting bridges for the future. This isn't just about showcasing Texas—it's about highlighting our partners and ensuring they make their best investments with our partners in Texas.

2024 Taiwan Trip Highlights

Another Successful venture!

In November 2024, we wrapped up another great FDI trip to Taiwan! Highlights included visiting Deloitte and CBRE, connecting with innovative companies, and celebrating the inauguration of the 2025 Taiwanese CCIM President.

The most heartwarming part was reuniting with friends from our 2023 Japan-Taiwan trip and those who joined us on this year's bus tour adventure.

The energy, collaboration, and shared vision made this trip special. It reinforced the powerful, long-term bridges we're building across borders.

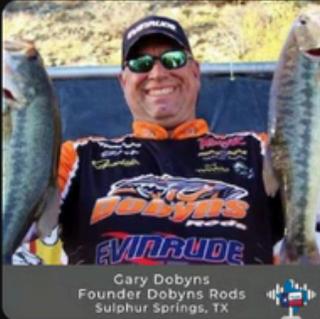
It was a exciting trip of partnership, progress, and possibilities!



Podcast Updates

Recent Episodes

[View all →](#)



Gary Dobyms
Founder Dobyms Rods
Sulphur Springs, TX

Sept. 16, 2024

Episode 29 - Gary Dobyms, Dobyms Rods, Sulphur Springs, TX

In this episode of Gone to Texas, Dave welcomes Gary Dobyms, Founder of Dobyms Rods, based in Sulphur Springs, TX. Gary shares his inspiring story of moving his fishing rod company from California to Sulphur Springs over sev...

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YOU TUBE](#)



Joey Evans
Director of Business Support and
Development
TNW Corporation, Gonzales, TX

Aug. 15, 2024

Episode 28 - Joey Evans, TNW Corporation, Gonzales, TX

In this episode of Gone to Texas, Dave is joined by Joey Evans, the Director of Business Support and Development at TNW Corporation. Joey shares his extensive experience in the rail industry, having worked his way up from b...

[WATCH ON
YOU TUBE](#)

Our Gone To Texas podcast continues to spotlight the incredible stories and leaders shaping our communities, and we're thrilled to announce that **we're now producing episodes on YouTube to expand our viewing audience!**

A special thank you to Sulphur Springs and Gonzales for suggesting such outstanding CEOs and leaders—it was a true privilege to interview and collaborate with them. Their insights and experiences were inspiring and impactful.

Recently, during a conversation with William Myers in Gainesville, Texas, he shared how his community recognizes the value in affirming the importance of highlighting their community's CEOs. We're excited to keep sharing stories that matter!

Marketing Voice



23,096 Visits

What does that mean for you?

We have had companies tell us that they are actively using the search tool to find ideal matches.

We also have had communities tell us their website traffic has increased

We are working diligently to make sure all of your top favorite sites are represented.

More information coming!

Podcast Downloads

2800 downloads reached!

When you sponsor a podcast, we are now producing video and audio versions increasing its potential audience.

Newsletter

13,000 -15,000 emails

2024 Highlights

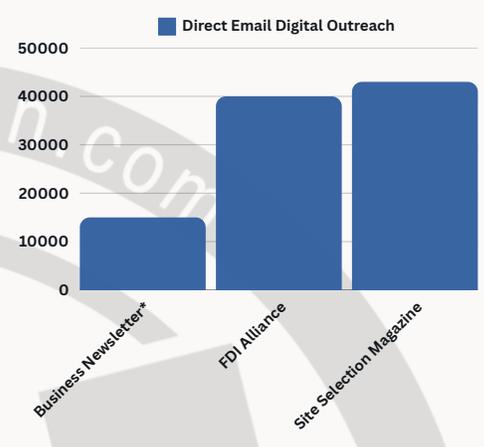
Leads - 123

2024 RFI's - 18

Site Visits - 4

**2024 RFI- 1 company moved
2 companies still finalizing locations, 1 decided not to move.**

2024 Direct Email Reach Outs



2024 RFI'S / UPDATES - TOTAL 18

This year, we have seen the best response from leads who communicate with us. Three businesses are serious about making the move to Texas in the next few months.

Project Leather / Results Sent To Company- no update

Project Global Logistics / Results Sent To Company - no update

Project Gomer / Results Sent To Company - no update

Project Mother Lode / Looking

Project Promised Land/ Have decided to put their relocation plans on hold.

Project Healing / Results sent to the company

Project Thunderbolt/ RFIs forwarded to the company

Project East Texas/ Congratulations to Mt. Pleasant for 300 Arms' final move to the Texas location!

Project Book Return/ decided to hold off until Spring

Project Broom/ Short List

Project Germany/ Results Sent To Company

Project Home Work / Results Sent To Company

Project Eastern Europe/ Results sent to company

Project Juice Box/ Results sent to the company. Reviewing options

Project Aura/ Results sent to the company

Project Cruise Ship/ Results sent to company

Project Tractor/RFI Sent - They are looking for multiple communities all around Texas.) |

Project TexAmericas / Sent to Eric Voyles as they were specific about relocation to Texarkana