

# Birmingham, AL Woman Business Owner Wins National Award

BIRMINGHAM, AL (SEND2PRESS NEWSWIRE) – Sheila Benson, President and CEO of Employment Screening Services in Birmingham, Alabama, has been selected as a Women-Owned Business Star for 2006.

Employment Screening Services provides background screening services, credit reports, drug testing and live scan fingerprinting. Founded in 1994, ESS has sales offices in Atlanta, Georgia, Dallas, Texas, and SanDestin, Florida.

The Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC), the nation's leading advocate of women-owned businesses as suppliers to America's corporations, announced Benson's distinction in a recent media release. Of the award Benson says, "It is an honor to receive this distinction. Being certified (by WBENC) has created many opportunities and opened many doors that would not have otherwise been available to my company. Today we have many corporate accounts obtained only through contacts and exposure through WBENC National Convention and/ or WBENC functions. This distinction is going to be the icing on the cake."

The organization's "Business Stars" are selected based on leadership in the local business community, ability to inspire other women business owners and consistency in directing a successful WBENC-certified business.

"Women business owners make outstanding contributions to the US economy each and every day," said Susan Bari, President of WBENC. "Our Salute recognizes a handful of the WBEs who are instrumental to America's economic recovery, job creation and future. WBENC is proud to spotlight these WBEs who demonstrate their commitment to the US economy by operating successful businesses while serving as leaders in their communities."

Benson and the 13 other 2006 national honorees will be featured at the Salute to Women's Business Enterprises: The Enterprising Economy, WBENC's annual black-tie fundraiser in Washington, DC, on March 23 at the National Building Museum. Honorees will also be featured throughout the year on the organization's website, [www.wbenc.org](http://www.wbenc.org).

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