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**KEELI JERNIGAN IS NAMED “2013 WOMEN’S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE STAR”  
BY WOMEN’S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE NATIONAL COUNCIL**

***To be honored before 1,000 at “Salute to Women’s Business Enterprises”***

Keeli Jernigan, CEO & President, Trans-Expedite Inc., will receive the nation's premier award for excellence among women's business enterprises (WBEs) bestowed by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) at its Salute to Women's Business Enterprises. The annual event will take place **March 14, 2013**, at the Baltimore Hilton, Baltimore, MD, before 1,000 corporate and government executives, WBEs and members of WBENC's Regional Partner Organizations (RPOs).

Trans-Expedite is a full service logistics company handling the time sensitive shipments of critical cargo. As a single source solution of warehousing, inventory and distribution, Trans-Expedite specializes in protecting its customers' assets, reducing their operational costs and solving strategic supply chain problems.

Under the banner of the organization's 2013 theme “Join Forces. Succeed Together,” WBENC's Summit & Salute is a major national event designed to drive business development and collaborative success among WBENC's Corporate and Government Members and WBEs. Sponsored by Accenture and Ernst & Young LLP, the two-day event provides vital access to the thought leaders, business intelligence and senior-level networking opportunities that enable sustainable growth.

“Jernigan is an outstanding leader whose strategic and innovative approach benefits her clients and her company. She demonstrates the power of women's businesses in driving sustainable economic growth,” said Pamela Prince-Eason, WBENC President and CEO, the leading advocate and authority on WBEs as suppliers to the nation's top corporations and government agencies.

Jernigan will be recognized for her leadership in business, her inspiration to other women, and her active role at the helm of Trans-Expedite. The Women's Business Council Southwest selected Jernigan for this national honor. It is one of WBENC's 14 Regional Partner Organizations (RPOs) that process WBENC's world-class certification of WBEs, in addition to providing skills-building educational programs and business development opportunities in their regions.

"The Women's Business Council Southwest is so proud to have Keeli Jernigan and Trans-Expedite as a WBE Member of our Council. Keeli epitomizes the successful, creative, resourceful business owner that makes our country great. Her company along with her influence has grown over the years as she continues to be a vital shipping and transportation supplier to many major corporations nationally and internationally. She has a strong commitment to mentoring other women business owners and to supporting WBEs through her company's purchasing practices," said Debbie Hurst, President of The Women's Business Council Southwest.

"We are proud to receive this recognition. It's an honor to be recognized as a leader among such an amazing group of women and I am truly grateful to The Women's Business Council Southwest and WBENC," said Jernigan.

**About WBENC:** The Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) is the leading advocate for Women's Business Enterprises (WBEs) as suppliers and vendors to the nation's corporations. Founded in 1997, WBENC is also the nation's leading third-party certifier of businesses owned and operated by women, with nearly 11,000 WBENC-Certified WBEs. WBENC certification is accepted by more than 1,000 corporations representing America's most prestigious brands, in addition to many states, cities and other entities. Throughout the year, WBENC and its 14 Regional Partner Organizations (RPOs) provide opportunities for interactions among Corporate and Government Members and certified WBEs at business building events and other forums. WBENC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that seeks and accepts donations from corporations, foundations and individuals that support its mission and programs. For more information, please go to [www.wbenc.org](http://www.wbenc.org).

**About Trans-Expedite:**

Founded in 2001 in its Corporate Office located in El Paso, Texas, Trans-Expedite specializes in time-sensitive transportation and delivers true innovation in logistics. Evolving from a core competency of time-sensitive transportation services, the company has developed a full range of logistics capabilities including warehousing, inventory and distribution.