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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LFDA Honors Southwest District and Governor Patrick Menard with the 2026 Outstanding District Award

Baton Rouge, LA - The Louisiana Funeral Directors Association (LFDA) proudly announces that the Southwest District has been selected as the recipient of the 2026 Outstanding District Award, recognizing exceptional leadership, professional development, community service, and member engagement. The award was presented during the LFDA Installation Banquet held in conjunction with the 2026 LFDA Convention.

Under the leadership of District Governor Patrick Menard, the Southwest District demonstrated an outstanding commitment to advancing the funeral profession while making a meaningful difference throughout the communities it serves. Throughout the year, the district successfully combined continuing education opportunities, networking events, charitable initiatives, and volunteer service projects that strengthened both its membership and the communities of Southwest Louisiana.

Key accomplishments included:

- Providing multiple continuing education programs featuring industry experts and legislative updates, with strong attendance from members and vendor partners.
- Leading a regional disaster relief effort to support families affected by flooding in Kerrville, Texas, collecting and delivering supplies, hygiene products, food, and other essential items.
- Organizing year-round community outreach projects, including Toys for Tots collections, holiday card drives for nursing home residents, professional clothing donations for university students, eyeglass recycling initiatives, food pantry support, and volunteer participation in numerous local charitable events.
- Supporting local nonprofit organizations through financial contributions, including the Acadiana Veterans Honor Guard, Maddie's Footprints, Aylee's Angels, RescYou Group, Heartstrings and Angel Wings, and Healing House.
- Fostering member engagement through educational meetings, volunteer opportunities, and collaborative networking events that strengthened relationships among funeral professionals throughout the district.

"The Southwest District exemplifies the spirit of this award through its dedication to education, service, and leadership," said Brian Carroll, Chairman of the Outstanding District Award Committee. "Governor Patrick Menard and the district's members have created a culture of involvement that not only benefits funeral service professionals but also leaves a lasting impact on the communities they serve."

Throughout his term as Governor, Menard focused on strengthening communication, collaboration, and professional development among funeral directors and embalmers across the district. His leadership helped create opportunities for members to share knowledge, stay informed on industry developments, and work together in service to families throughout Louisiana.

LFDA congratulates Governor Patrick Menard and the Southwest District on this well-deserved recognition and thanks them for their outstanding contributions to the funeral profession and the citizens of Louisiana.

For more information about LFDA district programs and awards, visit www.lfdaweb.org.

About LFDA

The Louisiana Funeral Directors Association is a statewide professional trade association made up of members throughout the State of Louisiana. The Louisiana Funeral Directors Association promotes integrity in the funeral service industry through education, legislation, networking and communications. For more information, visit www.lfdaweb.org.