

**// For Immediate Release//**

**For More Information Contact:**

Patty Weaver: 816-753-2121

Toni Alexander: 816-235-7725

**Walton Construction COO Named  
MidAmerica Minority Business Development Council Chair**

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (FEBRUARY 16, 2007) - MidAmerica Minority Business Development Council (MAMBDC) announced Dennis Thompson as the new Chairman. Thompson, chief operating officer of Walton Construction Company, LLC, received the gavel at a recent board meeting, which began his two-year term.

"Dennis is very passionate about supplier diversity," said Lonnie Scott, president of MAMBDC. "His leadership skills and forward thinking attitude is what we need to continue to help strengthen minority businesses."

As chair, Thompson's responsibilities include correspondence with the other 39 regional affiliates of the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC), oversight of the executive board, and working to increase minority business lines as well as corporate membership.

*Comprised of more than 140 member corporations and over 200 certified minority businesses, MAMBDC (formerly Minority Supplier Council) seeks to develop and promote a corporate/community effort to provide a barrier free economy. Established in 1984, MAMBDC is a non-profit organization that seeks to enhance the growth and development of minority owned business enterprises through participation in private and public sector procurement programs.*

*Walton Construction Co., LLC, which maintains full-service offices in Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield, Mo., Dallas, New Orleans and Shreveport, La., is ranked among the top contractors in the United States by Engineering News Record. Established in 1985, Walton Construction has grown steadily to become a leader in pre-construction, general contracting, design-build and construction management services.*

###