



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Wood/Patal's Darrel Wood to Receive National Community Service Award

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Darrel Wood, principal at Wood/Patal in Phoenix, will be presented a 2012 Community Service Award from the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) at the upcoming ACEC Fall Conference in Boca Raton, Fla., on October 17.

The award recognizes a principal or manager of an ACEC member firm who has made outstanding contributions to the quality of life in his or her community.

Wood has an exemplary history of volunteerism that addresses one of Phoenix's most pressing needs—hunger. For the past 17 years he has been actively involved in leadership—and in many cases the primary face—of the St. Mary's Food Bank, which has collected and distributed more than 3.5 million meals to sites that serve the hungry.

Through that initiative, Wood also established the Community Kitchen Program, which provides training for jobs in the area's food service industry, and he has led numerous other food bank distributions programs, such as holiday turkey giveaways, which often include Wood/Patal staff.

Earlier this year, he joined the U.S. Marine Corps and Toys for Tots in providing food and toys for the Native American Supai Village, located at the Havasupai Reservation at the bottom of the Grand Canyon. The remote location required that food and toys be delivered by military helicopters.

*The American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) is the business association of America's engineering industry, representing more than 5,000 independent engineering companies throughout the United States engaged in the development of America's transportation, environmental, industrial, and other infrastructure. Founded in 1909 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., ACEC is a national federation of 51 state and regional organizations.*