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Strategic Partnerships,
Inc.

Press Release

For immediate release

Featherston joins SPI as senior managing consultant

Austin, TX (December 2, 2009) – Pattie Featherston has been named a senior managing consultant for Strategic Partnerships, Inc. (SPI), an Austin-based national research and procurement consulting firm. Featherston has spent a number of years in the private and public sector arenas in a variety of positions.

Featherston most recently served as the chief operating officer for the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS), where she was responsible for complex strategic planning, program development and executive management of TRS administration and operations. TRS Texas is one of the largest public pension systems in the nation, managing over \$88 billion in assets, delivering benefits of more than \$7 billion per year, as well as other services to more than 1.2 million public education and higher education employees and retirees. Prior to serving as the COO, she was the director of governmental relations for TRS Texas.

Featherston previously served as legislative liaison for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. She also spent a decade working with officials of municipalities, corporations, trade associations and non-profit organizations strategizing with them on municipal issues, insurance, worker's compensation, waste management and taxation. She is a former policy analyst for a statewide association representing some of the state's largest private sector corporations. She also previously served as the chief of staff for a member of the Texas House of Representatives.

Featherston holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from The University of Texas at Austin and completed the Governor's Executive Development Program.

In her new role with SPI, Featherston will combine her private sector expertise with her longstanding government background to assist SPI clients.

About Strategic Partnerships, Inc.:

SPI (www.spartnerships.com) is a government procurement and national research firm founded in 1994 in Austin, Texas. Its staff of consultants, researchers and budget analysts are all former government executives who work in the area of government procurement.

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