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## **Association of Texas Professional Educators**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **ATPE announces new executive director**

AUSTIN— The Association of Texas Professional Educators (ATPE) announced today the selection of Gary G. Godsey as its new executive director. With 33 years of nonprofit management experience, Godsey has dedicated his life to the nonprofit sector and has been responsible for raising more than 700 million dollars for nonprofit organizations in health and community building.

Godsey is currently the president and chief executive officer of the PKD Foundation, an organization committed to polycystic kidney disease research and education, in Kansas City, Mo. Joining ATPE's team will allow him to return to Texas where he previously served as the president and chief executive officer of the United Way of Metropolitan Dallas for 11 years. Prior to that, Godsey served as president of United Way/Capital Area Austin, Texas.

Godsey's extensive background as a nonprofit leader and passion for making a difference in the community is in line with ATPE's mission to advocate for a quality education for public school students across Texas.

When introduced to ATPE staff, Godsey shared that he is impressed with the organization's reputation. "I am absolutely honored and privileged to be the next executive director of this organization," Godsey said. "Educating children and preparing them to be the leaders of tomorrow is the most critical job one could possibly have."

The ATPE Board of Directors unanimously voted on Godsey to replace Doug Rogers, who will retire this summer after 24 years as the group's executive director. The ATPE House of Delegates is expected to ratify Godsey's appointment at its July meeting. He will begin the position on August 1.

"We are very grateful to Doug Rogers for his historic achievements and commitment to improving public education in Texas during his tenure," said ATPE State President Deann Lee. "We are thus fortunate, and greatly pleased, to have recruited an exceptional nonprofit leader and manager as his successor."

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*With more than 100,000 members, the Association of Texas Professional Educators is the preeminent educators' association in Texas and the largest nonunion educators' group nationwide. Its*

*membership consists of classroom teachers, para-educators, administrators, college students and retired educators. ATPE is committed to advocating for better benefits for all educators, promoting a collaborative work environment and the right of educators to choose the association they feel represents their interests, and providing the best education possible for all Texas school children.*