

# PORT ARTHUR EDC NEWSLETTER



2025  
JAN-SEPT

# BUILD IT SHIP IT RAIL IT

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[www.portarthuredc.org](http://www.portarthuredc.org)



## A NEW LOOK FOR PAEDC IS ON THE HORIZON.

The Port Arthur Economic Development Corporation is currently working on a complete rebrand to better reflect the progress and possibilities of our community. Over the years, Port Arthur has grown and evolved, and it's important that our image evolves with it. A fresh logo, updated color scheme, and redesigned website are in development to create a stronger first impression for potential businesses, while also strengthening trust and communication with our existing partners and residents. This new identity will allow us to better showcase the opportunities available in Port Arthur and highlight our ongoing mission to drive growth, innovation, and community pride. Stay tuned for the unveiling of a look that represents both who we are today and the future we are building together.



From Left - Right | Front Row: Intern Paige Davis; EDC Staff Rachel Jacquet; Intern Julissa Cardenas; Intern Jamiya Adams; EDC Interim CEO Krystie Mueller; EDC Staff Shawn Granger; Intern Caleb Mayfield; UT Intern Lola Carr; Intern Makayla Appleberry; Intern Maure'ona Pete. Back Row: EDC Staff Khan Ha; Intern Lucas Burton; Intern Davaguhn Hebert; Intern Kereona Washington; Intern Clayton Harrison



From Left - Right | Front Row: EDC Director Beverly Raymond; Intern Julissa Cardenas; Intern Jamiya Adams; EDC Board President Darrell Anderson; Intern Caleb Mayfield; Intern Makayla Appleberry. Back Row: Intern Paige Davis; Intern Lucas Burton; Intern Davaguhn Hebert; Intern Kereona Washington; Intern Clayton Harrison; EDC Director Jerry Labove.

## INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE: PAEDC YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

The Port Arthur EDC proudly hosted the 2025 Youth Employment Program (Y.E.P.) Reception, honoring local high school juniors and seniors who gained hands-on experience through summer internships with Port Arthur businesses and organizations.

Students explored careers in health care, business, law, technology, public service, and more while interning with partners such as Gulf Coast Cardiology, Escobedo Insurance Agency, Allied IT Systems, the Port Arthur Police Department, Welding World, Port Arthur Health Department and Port Arthur Parks and Recreation. By investing in our youth, we're building the next generation of leaders and keeping Port Arthur the *Gateway to Opportunity*.

# PAEDC AWARDS SCHOLARSHIPS TO PORT ARTHUR LSCPA STUDENTS

The Port Arthur Economic Development Corporation (PAEDC) is excited to announce the winners of this year's Scholarships. Congratulations to Julissa Cardenas, Ediel Garcia, Andy Ramirez, Robert Hughes, Cody Nguyen, and Elijah Jimenez, each awarded \$9,000 to pursue a two-year degree in high-demand career fields.

These scholarships are more than financial support, they are an investment in Port Arthur's future workforce. Since 2015, PAEDC and LSCPA have partnered to prepare students for careers in vital industries such as nursing, HVAC, and process technology. With major industrial projects rising across Southeast Texas, the need for skilled, local talent has never been greater.

By empowering our students, we are building a stronger Port Arthur, one scholarship, one career, and one success story at a time.



## WORK. MEET. CREATE AT THE PRESS BUILDING

The Press Building at 549 4th Street is your go-to spot for affordable coworking! Whether you need a desk for the day or a space for the month, we've got flexible options that fit your needs.

Hosting a meeting? From small gatherings of 6 to larger groups of 80, our meeting spaces are ready for you. Come see where productivity meets community!

Contact Tateyane Gloston at The Press Building to reserve your space today: [tgloston@paedc.org](mailto:tgloston@paedc.org)



## PORT ARTHUR BUSINESS PARK

Conveniently located on Spur 93 (West Port Arthur Road), the Port Arthur Business Park covers 300 acres and serves as a hub for growth and innovation. Already home to more than 20 successful businesses, and with new companies continuing to move in, the park is a driving force behind job creation and economic opportunity in our region.

With room to grow, the Port Arthur Business Park is positioning our city as a destination for industry, entrepreneurship, and long-term investment.



# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 101

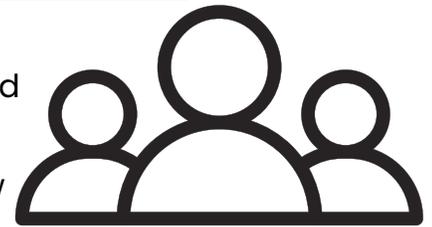
## WHAT IS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic development is about helping a community grow stronger by supporting local businesses, attracting new investments, and creating good jobs. It means building opportunities for residents, improving the local quality of life, and making Port Arthur a place where people want to live, work, and thrive.



## THE PORT ARTHUR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Port Arthur Economic Development Corporation is a **Type A** corporation created to enhance Port Arthur's business climate and overall economic development. The PAEDC is responsible for encouraging and developing business growth and attracting new business to Port Arthur.



## HOW A TEXAS TYPE A EDC FUNCTIONS

In Texas, an Economic Development Corporation (EDC) is a nonprofit created by local voters to grow jobs and strengthen the economy. Funded by a portion of city sales tax, an EDC reinvests those dollars into projects that benefit the community.

There are two types of EDCs: **Type A** EDC's and **Type B** EDC's.

*Texas Type A EDC can do but are not limited to the following:*

- Support the creation or retention of primary jobs in industries such as: manufacturing, warehousing, distribution, and industrial facilities.
- Fund infrastructure that promotes or develops new and/or expanded business development.
- Provide job training programs that benefit industries contributing to primary job creation.
- Facilitate the relocation or expansion of businesses that create primary jobs.
- Invest in research and development projects aimed at innovation and technological advancement.



TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT VISIT:  
[WWW.TEXASEDC.ORG](http://WWW.TEXASEDC.ORG) AND [COMPTROLLER.TEXAS.GOV](http://COMPTROLLER.TEXAS.GOV)



# SAY HELLO TO THE NEWEST PAEDC EMPLOYEES



**Dylan Bennett**  
Marketing & Insights Manager  
July 2025



**Tateyane Gloston**  
Press Building  
Administrative Clerk  
August 2025

## WELCOME BACK, DIRECTOR KAPRINA FRANK

Ms. Kaprina Frank was sworn in to the EDC Board in July 2025 and appointed Treasurer on August 4, 2025. A familiar face to the organization, Director Frank previously served on the board, including a term as President from 2013–2014. We are thrilled to welcome her back and look forward to the wealth of knowledge, experience, and insight she brings to the EDC and the Port Arthur community.



# WHAT'S GOING ON IN PA!

**NOW ENROLLING**  
**CDL CLASS-B STUDENTS**

CLASS BEGINS OCTOBER 13TH REGISTER TODAY!

Tuition assistance available for qualifying Port Arthur residents.  
CDL, Class B tuition is \$2,880.00

**QUALIFICATIONS**

- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Must be able to read and speak the English language to converse with the general public and make entries on reports and records.
- Must successfully complete a DOT Physical Examination and Drug Screen within 90 days of the class start date. (not included in tuition)
- Must have a valid Texas Drivers License.

Applicants must provide their three year driving record specific: Type 2 <https://texas.gov/vehicle/titles/7209PLicenseManager>. Must be within 30 days of class start date.

Trucking is a high-demand industry that offers rock-solid wages and job security. Lamar State College Port Arthur's Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Class B training course can get you up to speed and on the road in 8 weeks.

**LOCAL JOBS AVAILABLE NOW!**

For questions and additional information contact: Miss Donna Thomas, LSCPA Workforce Development Counselor (409) 984-6232 | [dtomasa@lamar.edu](mailto:dtomasa@lamar.edu)  
[www.lamar.edu/workforce-continuing-education/](http://www.lamar.edu/workforce-continuing-education/)

Did You Know? The median earnings for CDL, Class B drivers is \$57,440 per year!

**PORT ARTHUR ANNUAL FALL JOB FAIR 2025**

ROBERT A. "BOB" BOWERS CIVIC CENTER  
2014 ARTHUR, TEXAS 77601

Wednesday, October 15, 2025 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**LOOKING FOR YOUR NEXT OPPORTUNITY?**

**Why Attend?**

- Meet directly with local employers who are hiring now
- Explore career paths across multiple industries
- Learn about training and workforce resources available in Port Arthur
- Build valuable connections with recruiters and community leaders

**PROUD SPONSORS**

**What You Need to Know:**

- Free admission
- Dress professionally
- Bring multiple copies of your resume
- Be prepared to interview on-site
- Arrive on time
- Opportunities available for full-time, part-time, and entry-level positions

**TAKE THE FIRST STEP TOWARD YOUR FUTURE CAREER!**

**PAEDC PRESENTS:**  
**The Small Business Power Hour**  
Monthly Small Business Series | October 2025 - March 2026

Hosted by: Port Arthur EDC  
The Press Building | 549 8th Street, Port Arthur, TX  
Thursdays | 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

**SBDC**

Thinking about starting a business? Or maybe you just want to learn more about business structures and strategies. The Small Business Power Hour is designed to give you the tools, insight, and connections you need. Join us once a month and take the first step toward building your business success!

**October 16, 2025 - The Entrepreneur's Mindset**  
Learn what it takes to be a successful entrepreneur in Port Arthur and align your mindset for growth.

**November 13, 2025 - Planning & Registering Your Business**  
Understand legal structures, business registration, licenses, and create a lean business plan.

**December 11, 2025 - Financial Fundamentals**  
Budgeting, startup costs, bookkeeping, and managing cash flow.

**January 15, 2026 - Marketing & Branding**  
Build a brand, craft your message, and use digital tools to grow your business.

**February 12, 2026 - Funding & Growth Strategy**  
Access capital, understand credit, and create a growth plan for the next year.

**March 12, 2026 - Resources & Next Steps**  
Leverage local, state, and national resources to expand your business and network.

All sessions are free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required.  
Register on our website: [www.paedc.org](http://www.paedc.org)

## BOARD MEMBERS

- Darrell Anderson, President
- Ingrid Holmes, Vice President
- Kaprina Frank, Treasurer
- Kaala Jacobs, Secretary
- Morris Albright, Director
- Jerry Labove, Director
- Beverly Raymond, Director



## STAFF MEMBERS

- Krystle Villarreal Muller, Interim CEO
- Dylan Bennett, Marketing & Insights
- Shawn Granger, Workforce & Community Development
- Joan Collazo, Programs & Administrative Assistant
- Sarai Garcia, Administrative Assistant
- Tateyane Gloston, Administrative Clerk
- Khanh Ha, Senior Facilities Maintenance