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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Council on Occupational Education Announces New Leadership and Board Members

[Atlanta, November 28, 2023] – The Council on Occupational Education (COE) is pleased to announce significant changes in leadership and the election of new members to the board. On November 16, 2023, during the COE Annual Business Meeting in Atlanta, five new members were elected to the board as well as an election of a new Commission Board Chair. These changes signify the commitment to excellence and growth within the organization. Their three-year terms will commence on January 1, 2024.

Elected as Commission Chair: Kim Ziebarth Kim Ziebarth, Associate Commissioner for Technical Education at the Utah System of Higher Education, has been elected as the Commission Chair of the Council on Occupational Education. With a proven track record of leadership and a deep understanding of industry trends, Ms. Ziebarth is poised to guide COE in its mission to uphold and advance the standards of occupational education.

New Members Elected to the Board:

- **Ahmon Bryant:** Master Barber, School Director, Instructor – Sharp Edgez Barber Institute, Rochester, NY
- **Terri Dowell-Kimble:** Dean For Academic Affairs – Concorde Career Colleges, Memphis, TN
- **Thomas Pfundstein, PH.D:** Director of Curriculum and Instruction – International Finishing Trades Institute, Annapolis, MD
- **Amit Shorewala:** Director – Ace Institute of Technology, New York, NY
- **Steve Sullivan:** Vice President – Pro Way Hair School, Stone Mountain, GA

“I have been so fortunate to work with a supportive and dedicated Commission Board. As we prepare to create our new Strategic Plan, I remain impressed with the caliber of new Board Members. COE is in great hands”, states Dr. Kirk Nooks, President and CEO of the Council on Occupational Education

These newly elected leaders and board members embody the vision and values of the Council on Occupational Education. Their diverse backgrounds and expertise will contribute to the organization's ongoing commitment to promoting and maintaining the highest standards in occupational education.

The Council on Occupational Education looks forward to the positive impact these leaders will have as they assume their respective roles. The entire COE community is excited about the future under their guidance.

About the Council on Occupational Education:

The Council on Occupational Education is a leading accreditor for over 500 postsecondary occupational education institutions in over 40 states. With a commitment to quality and continuous improvement, COE works to assure quality and integrity in career and technical education.

For media inquiries, please contact:

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