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**LOS RIOS' CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE DEVELOPMENT RECEIVES
TOP PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXPORT SERVICE**

SACRAMENTO – The Los Rios Community College District's Sacramento Regional Center for International Trade Development was awarded the President's "E" Star Award for Export Service on Monday, the highest recognition any American entity can receive for making a significant contribution to the expansion of U.S. exports.

U.S. Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker presented the award to Center Director Brooks Ohlson and Jamey Nye, Los Rios' associate vice chancellor for instruction, at a ceremony in Washington, D.C.

The award honored the Center for its development of innovative training materials and courses to help businesses better understand the intricacies of the export process, especially outreach to rural communities.

"The Sacramento Center's achievements have undoubtedly contributed to national export expansion efforts that support the U.S. economy and create American jobs," Pritzker said in her congratulatory letter to the Center announcing its selection as an award recipient.

The President's "E" Award Committee - chaired by the Commerce Department with representatives from the Departments of Agriculture, Interior, and Labor, the Small Business Administration, the Maritime Administration, and the Export-Import Bank of the United States - weighs the merits of applicants, considering all aspects of the applicant's trade promotion program.

"This prestigious national award illustrates the commitment Los Rios Community College District shares with our community in reaching the economic development growth goals of our Capital Region Prosperity Plan's Next Economy," said the Center's Ohlson. "We are helping our region reach overseas markets through training, finding solutions to complex export problems, providing marketing consultation and working with a large network of educational and government entities."

The Center for International Trade Development has twice before won (2010) or been a co-recipient (2013) of the President's E Award for Export Service. The "E Star" award is an even higher honor, recognizing past E Award recipients for their continued superior performance in increasing or promoting exports.

"We're so proud of Brooks' leadership and the work of our international trade development center," said Los Rios Chancellor Brian King. "This award is well-deserved, but the real winner is the regional economy. It continues to grow stronger each day, thanks to the support and savvy advice Brooks and his team provide."

The Center, located in Sacramento, has operated within the Los Rios Community College District since 1990.

ABOUT LOS RIOS

The Los Rios Community College District is one of the nation's most respected learning institutions and the second-largest community college district in California, serving the greater Sacramento region. Los Rios includes: American River, Cosumnes River, Folsom Lake and Sacramento City colleges; six major education and outreach centers; and specialized workforce and economic development programs, for regional businesses, governments and organizations. Los Rios colleges offer AA/AS degrees, certificates and transfer-education opportunities in more than 70 career fields. The District's 2,400 square-mile service area includes all of Sacramento County, most of El Dorado County and parts of Yolo, Placer and Solano counties. More than 75,000 students are enrolled in the four Los Rios Colleges. For more information, go to www.losrios.edu.