



**US Business Leadership Network Announces Confirmed  
Outstanding Speakers for its 2010 Annual Conference:  
15 Days Left for Discounted Early-bird Rate**

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WASHINGTON, DC (July 1, 2010) - The US Business Leadership Network (USBLN®) announces a dynamic line-up of speakers to date for its 2010 Annual Conference, "Aligning Disability with the Bottom Line: Talent, Market Share, and Supplier Diversity" being held on September 19-22, 2010 at the Westin Michigan Avenue Hotel located in Chicago, Illinois. The conference will offer informative and valuable general plenary and breakout sessions with the following outstanding speakers confirmed to date (*line-up subject to change without notice*):

- **Randy Lewis**, Senior Vice-President of Distribution & Logistics, Walgreens Company, USBLN® Annual Conference Chair
- **The Honorable Richard M. Daley**, Mayor, City of Chicago - *invited*
- **Colleen Barrett**, President Emeritus, Southwest Airlines
- **The Honorable Kathleen Martinez**, Assistant Secretary, Office of Disability Employment Policy, U.S. Department of Labor
- **Luke Visconti**, CEO, DiversityInc
- **Lynnae M. Rutledge**, Commissioner, Rehabilitation Services Administration, U.S. Department of Education
- **Dan O'Brien**, Acting Associate Commissioner, Social Security Administration
- **Beth Butler**, Vice President, Employment Compliance, Wells Fargo Company, USBLN® Board Chair
- **Deb Russell**, Corporate Manager, Walgreens Company, USBLN® Board Vice-chair
- **Martha Artiles**, Chief Diversity Officer, Manpower Inc., USBLN® Board Secretary/Treasurer
- **Jennifer Brown**, CEO, Jennifer Brown Consulting
- **Marca Bristo**, President, Access Living
- **Stephen Szilagyi**, Senior Vice President, Distribution, Lowe's Companies
- **Jackie LaJoie**, Director, Supplier Diversity, Merck
- **The Honorable Neil Romano**, President, The Romano Group LLC., Former, US Assistant Secretary of Labor
- **James Salzano**, Executive Vice President, Clarks Companies, N.A.
- **Andrew Imparato**, President and CEO, American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD)
- **John Robinson**, Author, "Get Off Your Knees: A Story of Faith, Courage, and Determination"
- **Lori Golden**, Inclusiveness Consultant and Lead of AccessAbilities, Ernst & Young, LLP, USBLN® Board member
- **Kevin Bradley**, Director Diversity, Global Inclusion and Intercultural Management, McDonald's Corporation, USBLN® Board member
- **Frances West**, Director, Worldwide Human Ability & Accessibility Center, IBM Corporation, USBLN® Board member
- **Debra Ruh**, CEO & Founder, TecAccess LLC, USBLN® Board member
- **John Molino**, Executive Vice President for Economic Empowerment, Wounded Warriors Project
- **Lisa Rosser**, CEO, The Value of a Veteran
- **Margaret Regan**, President and CEO, The FutureWork Institute
- **Mary O'Hara-Devereaux**, Founder and CEO, Global Foresight

Continuing an outstanding collaboration between two of the nation's top organizations working to make workplaces inclusive, the Job Accommodation Network (JAN) is partnering with the USBLN® to present essential accommodation solutions within the Talent track. The conference will also include pre- and post- conference sessions including specifically designed for Affiliate Board Members and Staff from over 60 Business Leadership Network affiliates across North America.

**There are 15 days remaining for the discounted early-bird rate for the four-day conference including over 40 educational sessions, Expo, special events and many meals for \$325.00.** After July 15, 2010 the rate increases to \$395.00. As an added incentive to the \$70.00 discount off the standard conference registration, early registrants will be entered to win fabulous prizes. Single day rates and an additional discount are offered for two or more attendees from the same organization. For more information about the conference or to register, please visit [www.usblnannualconference.org](http://www.usblnannualconference.org).

#### **Educational programming for 2010 Annual Conference features:**

- **Talent: Encompassing Operations and Human Resources from Recruitment through Retention** - Hear other companies explain the success they have had in employing people with disabilities within their operations. These sessions will focus on how including people with disabilities and expanding diversity improves your bottom line. Your company can also gain by targeting all aspects of the disability workforce, including youth preparedness, disabled Veterans and additional talent sourcing. Understand the ROI for hiring, promoting and retaining employees with disabilities and discover solutions to common challenges including transportation and universal access. Learn how to help others in your organization understand this business imperative through the creation and development of disability-focused Employee Resource Groups and much more.
- **Market Share** - Learn key trends, strategies and dynamic practices on how to effectively market to consumers with disabilities, while also making marketing more accessible and tapping into a loyal consumer base. Find out about improvements to product development that supports enhanced customer experiences for the disability community and how to tap into a customer base with \$220 billion in spendable, discretionary income.
- **Supplier Diversity** - Enhance your corporation's diversity and inclusion efforts by including businesses owned by entrepreneurs with disabilities in your supplier diversity program. Learn the business case and strategy for the inclusion of certified disability-owned businesses, and begin building relationships with certified businesses in attendance. Discover how certification can benefit your disability-owned business. Network with other entrepreneurs with disabilities.
- **JAN's Accommodation Solutions for Business** - Discover cutting-edge job accommodation solutions from senior JAN Consultants. Legislative changes effecting disability employment practices will also be explored. Job Accommodation Network (JAN) sessions within the Talent track are designed to significantly increase participants' knowledge base and skills regarding reasonable accommodation solutions, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and its recent Amendments.

Additional Keynotes and speakers are currently being confirmed and an online agenda will be published on the conference website soon. For more information about the USBLN® and its 2010 Annual Conference, please contact Anita Howard by email at [anita@usbln.org](mailto:anita@usbln.org).

#### **About the US Business Leadership Network (USBLN®)**

The US Business Leadership Network (USBLN®) is the national disability organization that serves as the collective voice of over 60 Business Leadership Network affiliates across North America, representing over 5,000 employers. The USBLN® promotes the business imperative of the preparation and inclusion of people with disabilities in the workplace, marketplace, and supply chain while supporting the development and expansion of its BLN affiliates. The USBLN® recognizes and supports best practices in hiring and advancing employees with disabilities, marketing to consumers with disabilities, and encourages contracting with vendors with disabilities through the development and certification of disability-owned businesses. [www.usbln.org](http://www.usbln.org)

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