

CHRIS E. WALLACE, IOM, CCE

President/CEO

North Texas Commission

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Chris Wallace was named President/CEO of the North Texas Commission in June of 2018. A unique public-private partnership, the Commission drives large impactful projects and legislative issues benefiting a robust 13-county region. Developed by the area's most influential leaders, the NTC tackles the region's greatest challenges and is staffed with subject matter experts who provide resources to market the region and educate future leaders. The NTC also manages the region's unified advocacy voice at the state and federal levels.

Prior to joining the NTC, Wallace was President/COO of the Texas Association of Business, the state chamber of commerce based in Austin. In this role, he managed TAB's statewide team responsible for legislative advocacy and strategy, operations, membership/marketing, as well as board and chamber relations. As a registered lobbyist, Chris has led advocacy initiatives in the areas of economic development and trade having founded the highly recognized and successful Keep Texas Open for Business Coalition. Wallace also led statewide campaigns reauthorizing the Export-Import Bank, the Texas-Mexico Trade Coalition (advocating for the passage of the USMCA), as well as the need for telemedicine in Texas.

Wallace grew up in North Texas and for 10 years he served as President/CEO of the Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber, the first national Five-Star Accredited Chamber in Texas. He also managed the Irving Economic Development Partnership and previously was Vice President of the Las Colinas Association where he successfully developed and implemented a corporate communications and marketing program for the 12,000-acre Las Colinas development.

Wallace is a past chairman of the Board of Trustees of the U.S. Chamber's Institute for Organization Management as well as a former Regent of Northeast Institute. He is among only 575 executives in the nation who have earned their CCE (Certified Chamber Executive) designation. He also serves on the national board of the Business & Industry Political Action Committee (BIPAC) and on the Texas Advisory Committee of the U.S. Global Leadership Coalition.

He is a 1992 graduate of Texas Tech University and serves on the Texas Tech Chancellor's Council and previously on the Professional Advisory Board of the College of Media and Communication where he was named an outstanding alumnus in 2008. He has played an active role in several local and state political campaigns throughout Texas. Wallace is an advocate of strong civic engagement through his involvement with numerous social service, education, arts and municipal-related boards/commissions.

Wallace was a finalist for a 2010 White House Fellowship and was featured among the Dallas 500 most powerful business leaders in Dallas-Fort Worth by D CEO Magazine in 2019 and 2020.