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BIRMINGHAM WATER WORKS RANKS AMONG TOP 10 TRAINING PROGRAMS IN THE NATION FOR THIRD STRAIGHT YEAR

Alabama's Largest Water System Consistently Ranks Among the Top Training Organizations in The World

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA — February 10, 2021 — For the third straight year, the Birmingham Water Works Board (BWVB) has ranked among the top 10 training programs, according to *Training* magazine.

During a virtual awards presentation held on Monday in conjunction with its Virtual Training Conference, *Training* magazine unveiled its Training Top 100 rankings, where BWVB finished at eighth place. The utility ranked sixth and seventh in the two previous years. BWVB has ranked among the top 125 training programs for nine straight years.

"Our Training Team's consistent placement in the industry's most prestigious awards program demonstrates not only the exceptional performance of our team, but also the high level of preparation of our employees as a result of our comprehensive training," said Michael Johnson, General Manager for the BWVB. "We're proud of our robust training operations at this utility which is more beneficial than ever during the pandemic as employees learn and utilize best practices for reducing the spread of the virus."

Previously titled Training 125, the Training 100 by *Training* magazine ranks US companies based on the excellence of their training and development programs. Notable companies included among the top 100 are Valvoline Instant Oil Change, Visa, Edward Jones, CVS Health, CarMax, Dish Network, and Mastercard.

"We are competing with companies with much larger budgets and more trainers in their organizations," said Rhonda Lewis, Training, Organizational Development & Safety/Risk Management Officer. "I'm proud that our team can continue to rank among and above national brands despite limited resources at our disposal."

Companies that rank in the top 10 for four consecutive years are inducted in the Training Top 10 Hall of Fame. BNSF Railway, Dollar General Corporation, Nationwide, and Sonic Automotive were inducted into the Hall of Fame this year, bringing the total companies to 18.

"We salute the 2021 Training Top 100 winners for the lives they've saved and the lives they've changed," said Lorri Freifeld, editor-in-chief of *Training* magazine. "We applaud their agility, adaptability, and ardent dedication to learning and to their people. We hope they continue to choose the road less traveled as they demonstrate how very much Training Matters today and every day."

About the Birmingham Water Works Board: Founded in 1951, the Birmingham Water Works Board (BWVB) serves 600,000 people in Jefferson, Shelby, Blount, St. Clair, and Walker counties. The BWVB operates four filtration plants, a certified testing laboratory, and has more than 4,000 miles of pipe in its distribution network and is ranked among the top water systems in the United States. For more information about the Birmingham Water Works Board, media inquiries, or tours of our museum, please call 205-244-4000 or visit www.bwwb.org.

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