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**Governor Rick Scott Honors Brian Knight of Pragmatic Works with the Business Ambassador Award**

The Governor's Business Ambassador Award is given to individuals for their work in creating jobs and opportunities for Florida residents. Brian Knight is the founder and CEO of Pragmatic Works, a SQL Server MVP and a Microsoft Certified IT Professional. Knight was recognized in a ceremony on March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the State Capital Building in Tallahassee, Florida.

Created in 2012 by the Executive Office of the Governor and Enterprise Florida, the Business Ambassador Award recognizes people and companies who have made significant contributions to the state of Florida's economic development. Governor Scott said, "It was an honor to recognize Pragmatic Works with the Governor's Business Ambassador Award for their work in creating opportunities and jobs for families in Florida. Pragmatic Works should be proud of their efforts to provide returning veterans with IT training and workforce assistance. As we continue to make Florida the most military friendly state in the nation and create an opportunity economy, we are fortunate to have so many businesses, like Pragmatic Works, that have chosen Florida to expand."

In 2009 Knight started the Pragmatic Works Foundation, a program focused on IT career training for returning veterans, the unemployed and the underemployed. Top priority is given to potential candidates transitioning from any of the United States Armed Forces will receive special consideration. The Pragmatic Works Foundation also assists candidates with developing a resume and practicing job interview strategies in order to ensure the best chance for job placement after completing the program. Over the last four years the Pragmatic Works Foundation has trained over 300 people with over 75% of graduates successfully securing jobs in the IT industry.

"I wanted a way to give back to the community I grew up in, to provide others with the same wonderful opportunities I was given when I was just starting out in IT. There is such a high demand for good people in the IT field and it has one of the lowest unemployment rates out of any industry. It's a great chance for anyone looking to start a career that has unlimited potential and excellent job security," explained Knight.

**About Pragmatic Works**

Pragmatic Works' mission is to help organizations drive value through innovative products that support the entire SQL Server Platform. The company accomplishes this by offering software that simplifies the development and management of SQL Server as well as delivering top-tier SQL Server trainers and consultants for your most complex data management and analytics projects. Pragmatic Works serves more than 7,200 customers globally across multiple industries including banking, insurance, financial, automotive and education. Visit [www.pragmaticworks.com](http://www.pragmaticworks.com) for more information.

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