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KBE BUILDING CORPORATION, THE SIMON KONOVER COMPANY TO SPONSOR ANNUAL OPERATION E.L.F. HOLIDAY DINNER
-Event will feed more than 900 Connecticut service members and their families-

HARTFORD – KBE Building Corporation and The Simon Konover Company will sponsor all of the meals for the annual holiday dinner in support of Operation E.L.F.(Embracing Lonely Families). The two companies will pick-up the tab for each meal and drink served at the dinner, which happens December 18, at the Hartford Convention Center.

Operation E.L.F. is a holiday initiative to help Connecticut's military members and their families during the holidays. Connecticut Governor M. Jodi Rell, a champion of the event, said Operation E.L.F. is an opportunity to recognize the great work and sacrifices of service members and their families. "They deserve our gratitude every day, but especially around the holidays when they may be a half-world away from each other," Rell said.

Governor Rell thanked KBE and The Simon Konover Company during a check presentation at the state capitol earlier this week. The sponsorship is part of KBE Building Corporation's **50 Ways to Make a Difference** initiative, which for the past two-years has targeted up to 50 worthwhile community-outreach projects throughout Connecticut each year.

The public can be a part of Operation E.L.F. and help support a service member and their family by donating grocery gift cards, department store gift cards, phone cards and new, unwrapped toys. Donations of fuel oil, Christmas trees, snow removal services and financial contributions may also be made to the Connecticut National Guard Foundation, Inc.

Many of the toys that are collected will be distributed to deployed families during the December 18 special holiday dinner. Other toys will be held by families to be placed under trees on Christmas morning.

Call the Operation ELF donation hotline at (860) 524-4924 for more information on making donations.

Photo Caption: Pictured are Major General Thaddeus J. Martin, adjutant general of the Connecticut National Guard, Kim Hoffman, NGCT director of family services, KBE Building Corporation Senior Vice President Simon Etzel, Connecticut Governor M. Jodi Rell, Jim Culkin and Jill Paradis, KBE Operation E.L.F. project managers.



About KBE Building Corporation

With offices in Farmington, Connecticut and Columbia, Maryland, KBE Building Corporation, is a \$300 million full-service, single-source commercial construction company strategically positioned to serve the Eastern and Mid-Atlantic U.S. Founded in 1959 and incorporated in 1966, the firm provides design-build, construction management, and general contracting services to clients in the corporate, educational, seniors, hospitality, health care, institutional, and retail markets. New York Construction News magazine ranks KBE Building Corporation 2nd among the top Connecticut contractors. The firm is ranked among Engineering News-Record magazine top 400 construction companies nationally. Visit the company's new website at www.kbebuilding.com.

About the Simon Konover Company

The Simon Konover Company is a fully integrated real estate organization headquartered in West Hartford, CT and Deerfield Beach, FL, nationally-recognized as one of the premier real estate entities operating throughout the Midwest and Eastern United States. Established over 50 years ago, The Simon Konover Company excels in real estate development, property acquisition, asset management, property management, construction, leasing and ownership.

The Simon Konover Company is a full-service organization providing superior service and expertise to Konover-related entities, as well as third party owners and investors. Through its diverse operating companies, The Simon Konover Company serves many market segments, including hotel, residential, office, industrial, retail, mixed-use, and specialty properties.