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Contact: Todd Olsen (512) 731-3213

## **Republican General Red Brown kicks-off campaign for Senate District 1**

TYLER (Oct. 5, 2015) -- Aggie, Tyler small businessman, former School Board president and veteran who has served our state and country as a Major General in the U.S. Army, James "Red" Brown kicked-off his campaign for State Senate today with a series of local meetings and events.

General Brown announced he will shake-up the status quo and bring hands-on, East Texas experience to set priorities and change how state government works. Brown is seeking the Republican nomination for state Senate District 1. This summer Senator Kevin Eltife announced he would not seek reelection.

"Our government has to do better," Brown said. "We have to do better for our school kids, better for parents, better for hardworking taxpayers and better for East Texas. I know we can get better results and I want to serve as a strong East Texas voice in the Texas Senate."

Brown has been recognized as a Tyler small businessman, a leader with the Boys and Girls Clubs, and for his military service as a citizen soldier. General Brown has led Texans into battle in some of the most dangerous parts of the world. His military awards include the Distinguished Service Medal (the Army's highest award for service), Bronze Star and Combat Action Badge awarded in Iraq, two Legions of Merit, six Meritorious Service Medals, three Army Commendation Medals and numerous other awards.

Brown said, "I want to raise academic standards. I want to reward great teachers. And I want parents to get involved because, when they do, the status quo gets

turned upside down.” Brown has hands-on experience working with parents and teachers to improve our public schools and colleges. In 2004, Brown challenged an incumbent member of the Lindale Independent School District Board of Trustees and won the election. A few years later, Lindale earned School Board of the Year and its credit rating was raised four notches from BBB to A+.

Brown is president and managing partner of Texas Water Systems, a private water utility company in Tyler. He has served on the Board of the Better Business Bureau of East Texas, as President of the Lindale Economic Development Corporation and as a Rotarian. Through his work and civic service, Red Brown has shown proven experience to fight for jobs and protect East Texas assets, like our water and private property rights.

General Brown is a husband and father of three. Red and Jane have been married for 29 years and are members of the Lindale First United Methodist Church.

About Senate District 1: The Republicans who have earned the largest number of primary votes have been strong Republican Party candidates, like Kevin Eltife, who managed to run unopposed in the huge, historically high turnout Republican primary years of 2012 and 2010.

With Sen. Eltife retiring, there is no incumbent advantage. SD 1 runs from Texarkana to Tyler, and west from the Texas-Louisiana border to the Neches River. SD 1 encompasses 16 counties that include: Bowie, Camp, Cass, Franklin, Gregg, Harrison, Lamar, Marion, Morris, Panola, Red River, Rusk, Smith, Titus, Upshur and Wood.

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