



April 2, 2012

Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership
Office of the Dean
School of Public Affairs, Ward 310
American University
4400 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20016-8022

Dear Selection Committee,

With great pride and pleasure, I recommend Lloyd O. Pierson for the 2012 Roger W. Jones Award for Executive Leadership. This nomination I put forth as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the United States African Development Foundation, with the full support of the Board. Since October 2007, Lloyd Pierson, President and CEO, has led the Agency to achieve outstanding program results and organizational improvements. This performance at USADF is a continuation of his many years of dedicated public service.

Lloyd was called on short notice to lead USADF, an independent public corporation of the United States Government that provides economic development assistance directly to African cooperatives, small and medium-sized enterprises and community based organizations. Coming out of retirement, Lloyd was faced with an organization that had steered off course, lacking a clear mission, program outcomes, and operational efficiency. He has succeeded beyond the expectations of the Board, stakeholders in the U.S. and Africa, and the African grant recipients we serve, in righting the ship, by focusing mission, increasing impact, and building up the staff of present and future leaders.

In my "day job" as Chairman of Weber-Shandwick, the international public relations company, I work with many capable leaders in my company and amongst the client base. Lloyd Pierson ranks among the very best of these. Thank you for your consideration of this nomination, of a committed, effective servant/leader, Lloyd Pierson.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack Leslie", written over a horizontal line.

Jack Leslie
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Attachments