

## **BILL W. BURGESS, JR.**

Bill W. Burgess, Jr. is chairman emeritus of the Board of Tchrizon, LLC, chairman of the Board of Vortex, Inc., and is the Senior Partner of Burgess & Hightower Law Firm.

Burgess is the son of Sgt (Ret.) Bill W. Burgess, Sr. and Betty Burgess. He graduated from Cameron University with a WA. degree, and received his jurist doctorate from the University of Oklahoma School of Law.

Tchrizon develops software for today's technologically advanced warfare. In its 25-year history Tchrizon software engineers have developed smart weapons systems which provide commanders with command and control, fire direction, target acquisition, forward observation, meteorological and communications software needed to succeed in modern battlefield situations. Tchrizon has achieved Level 5 certification under the Capability Maturity Model established by the Software Engineering Institute at Carnegie Mellon University. This certification places Tchrizon in the top one percent of all software engineering and development organizations. Tchrizon is the largest Oklahoma-owned software engineering company, with 300 associates employed at an average annual salary of sixty thousand dollars.

Burgess was appointed to the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education in the Spring of 1993 by the Governor of the State of Oklahoma for a term of nine years and was reappointed for a second nine year term in the Spring of 2002. The State Regents are the coordinating board for Oklahoma universities and are responsible for allocating university funding. He is one of the youngest State Regents to be appointed in the State's history. Burgess served as chairman of the Citizen& Commission on the Future of Oklahoma Higher Education. He also served as chairman of the 1998 campaign for passage of State Questions 680 and 681, the "Two for Technology" campaign, on higher education technology transfer. Burgess was chosen as one of the Oklahoma Department of Commerce's Oklahoma Stars for the "I Believe in Oklahoma" campaign. Burgess also serves on the Steering Committee for the Oklahoma EDGE (Economic Development Generating Excellence) project.

Burgess has served as chairman of the Oklahoma Business Roundtable, Inc., and serves on the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma State Chamber of Commerce. He has served as chairman of the board of the Lawton Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Inc. He is a graduate

of Leadership Oklahoma and has served on the Leadership Oklahoma Board of Directors. Mr. Burgess has served as a member of the Governor's Science and Technology Advisory Council, served as president of the Southwest Oklahoma Technology Association, and is on the Board of Directors of the Oklahoma Technology Development Corporation which operates the Oklahoma Technology Commercialization Center. He has been inducted by the United States Army into the Ancient Order of Saint Barbara. He has served as president of the Association of United States Army for Oklahoma. Burgess has served as president of the Boy Scouts of America - Southwest Oklahoma Council and is an Eagle Scout. He is a recipient of the Silver Beaver, Vigil Order of the Arrow, and God and Country Boy Scouts awards. He has served in a number of capacities for various civic and alumni organizations, and is also the recipient of several outstanding alumnus awards and civic awards.