

# BUSINESS IN THE HUMAN CAPITAL



**Austin**  
Chamber of Commerce  
Connecting Business.  
Creating Opportunity.

## LegalZoom Selects Austin for Regional Headquarters

LegalZoom recently announced plans to locate its regional headquarters in Austin, Texas, resulting in the creation of 600 jobs for Central Texas residents.

LegalZoom is the nation's leading online legal document preparation services which provide legal resources and tools to allow individuals to make their own legal decisions. Currently headquartered in LA, LegalZoom has served over 700,000 customers and has a 95% referral rate since its inception in late 2000.

## Hanger Orthopedic Group Relocates HQ to Austin

Hanger Orthopedic Group, Inc. (Hanger) recently announced plans to relocate its corporate headquarters to Austin, Texas.

The relocation will result in the creation of 130 jobs for Central Texas increasing to a total of 250 jobs in the future. Hanger is the world's premier provider of orthotic and prosthetic (O&P) services and products, offering the most advanced technology, clinically differentiated programs and unsurpassed customer service. Hanger's corporate relocation is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2010.



## Mirna Therapeutics Selected As ETF Recipient

The Austin Chamber and the CenTex RCIC recently announced that Mirna Therapeutics, Inc. has been chosen as the recipient of a commercialization award funded through the Texas Emerging Technology Fund (ETF). This company, focused on biopharmaceutical research and development, received a \$5 million award, the largest award of this type to be funded by the ETF.

Mirna was founded by former UT professor Matt Winkler and is a spinoff of Asuragen, itself a spinoff of Ambion. Mirna began focusing on microRNA (miRNA) in 2002 and continues to focus on the development of miRNA-directed therapeutics for the treatment of cancer and other diseases.

## Targeting Biotech and Life Science Companies in San Francisco



The Austin Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of the CenTex RCIC and BioAustin, recently sponsored two key events in San Francisco targeting national biotech and life science companies and their greater investment community. On January 12, the Burrill & Company Reception brought together more than 1,600 of the biggest names in the biotech, pharmaceutical and healthcare industries.

The OneMedPlace Emerging Company Finance Forum, January 11-13, showcased a diverse group of national emerging companies in the areas of medical devices and diagnostics, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, healthcare IT and healthcare services. As one of the founding sponsors, the Austin Chamber hosted a key lunch panel of Austin-based life science Emerging Technology Fund recipient companies.

The Austin Chamber prominently highlighted the thriving biotech community, unique investment opportunities and the high quality of living found only in Austin.

## Recent Expansions

**BancVue**  
100 jobs – 40,000 sf – Austin

**CSIdentity**  
40 jobs – Austin

**Dimensional Fund Advisors**  
59 jobs – Austin

**ETMG**  
24 jobs – Austin

**Formaspace Technical Furniture**  
28 jobs – 26,700 sf – Austin

**KLD Energy Technologies**  
10 jobs – Austin

**KoDIAC Assembly Solutions**  
20 jobs – 14,000 sf – Austin

**Mirna Therapeutics**  
12 jobs – Austin

**Shermco Industries**  
8 jobs – 10,000 sf – Cedar Park

**Spiceworks**  
25 jobs – Austin

**St. Jude Medical**  
26,782 sf – Austin

**Virtual Bridges**  
15 jobs – Austin

**VMware**  
100 jobs – 25,000 sf – Austin

## Recent Relocations

**Gowalla (aka Alamofire)**  
10 jobs – Dallas, TX

**Hanger Orthopedic Group**  
250 jobs – 75,000 sf – Bethesda, MD

**LegalZoom**  
600 jobs – Los Angeles, CA

*"No major state has weathered the recession more successfully than Texas. So it's logical that the best place to launch a new business would be a prominent Texas metropolitan area. The nation's top score for small-business vitality...belongs to Austin."*

- Portfolio.com, 1/18/10



### Austin-Bergstrom to Offer Three New Services

Beginning March 14, Alaska Airlines will officially resurrect the "Nerd Bird" flight with twice-daily flights between Austin, San Jose and Portland, OR. New nonstop air service offered five days a week between live music and recreation hot spots Austin and Branson, MO will begin May 17. Also, Delta Air Lines added new nonstop service between its Cincinnati hub and Austin starting June 11. This flight schedule makes possible single day trips from Austin to Cincinnati and back.

Austin-Bergstrom has nonstop service to 38 destinations in the U.S. and served 8.2 million passengers in 2009.

### Call for ETF Submissions

The next submission date for applications to the Emerging Technology Fund is April 13, 2010. Central Texas based entrepreneurs, inventors and businesses seeking early-stage investment in new, technology-based, private entrepreneurial entities that collaborate with a Texas public or private institution of higher education may qualify. Visit [www.centexcic.org](http://www.centexcic.org) or contact MK Holody at [mholody@austinchamber.com](mailto:mholody@austinchamber.com) for more details.

### CTAN Shows Winds of Change with 2009 Report



What's happening with the economy hasn't been lost on anyone, but there are more subtle winds of change blowing. 2009 turned out to be an incredible year for the Central Texas Angel Network (CTAN) and entrepreneurs across Texas and the Austin Chamber is proud to be a founding partner of such a successful organization.

Over the past 12 months, CTAN members have invested over \$3.5 million in promising young companies. That's over three times the amount of capital that was invested in 2008. This infusion of financial support has gone into 12 companies supporting over 80 employees and is helping fuel not only local innovation, but also economic development. Looking ahead, 2010 promises to be an exciting year for CTAN.

### US Department of Labor Announces Green Job Training Grants

In January Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis announced nearly \$100 million in green jobs training grants, as authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. Through the Energy Training Partnership Grants being administered by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, 25 projects ranging from approximately \$1.4 to \$5 million each receive grants.

The Austin Electrical Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC) has been awarded a grant of \$4,842,424 which will be used to combine utility-scale and commercial solar installation training with immediate employment opportunities in the Central Texas region. A total of 950 workers will receive electrical and specialized solar installer training within the first 12 months of the contract.

### Chamber Recruitment Trip to New York City

As 2009 came to a close, the Austin Chamber made its annual recruitment trip to New York City to meet with companies, prospects and media outlets about the benefits and advantages of doing business in the Greater Austin region.

Led by volunteer Rick Whiteley, Partner at Oxford Commercial, Chamber economic development staff and 18 local business leaders participated in 43 company meetings. These meetings included eight company headquarters with an already existing presence in Austin, seven investment firms and major media outlets including Reuters, CNN Money, Area Development and Financial Times.

This year's trip marks the 6th consecutive year that the Austin Chamber has traveled to New York City in an effort to diversify the Greater Austin economy and bolster the Opportunity Austin economic development portfolio.



### Austin in the News

**Austin 5th Best City to Live, Work and Make Movies.** *MovieMaker's* new ranking moved Austin to the No. 5 slot from its 10th place ranking last year. Austin has appeared in the top 10 for 10 consecutive years.

(*MovieMaker*, 1/18/10)

**Austin Best City for Small Business.** Austin clearly won, based on top performance in critical categories: Austin saw population growth four times faster than the national rate, impressive long term job growth and faster small business growth than any other market.

(*Portfolio.com*, 1/18/10)

**Austin Top Metro for Commercial Real Estate Investment.** Austin has the best prospects for commercial real estate investment this year. Austin, anchored by a top-notch university and state government, offers an advanced business base and young, educated workers.

(*Grubb & Ellis*, 1/4/10)

**Austin home to No. 3 Cleantech University.** The University of Texas at Austin is a historical leader in energy innovation, R&D and teaching. UT is using its leadership of the conventional energy industry as a launching pad for continued leadership in the cleantech revolution.

(*The Cleantech Group*, 1/4/10)

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