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Contact: Derick Hackett Communications Manager (512) 443-1334 ext. 202 dhackett@texas.usta.com

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JANEL WOERNER OF SAN ANTONIO WINS USTA TEXAS SECTION COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

AUSTIN, **Texas** – The 2015 USTA Texas Section Community Service Award went to **Janel Woerner**, of Boerne, Texas. Janel was recognized for her selfless dedication to tennis in her community at the joint USTA Texas and USPTA Texas Division awards banquet in Horseshoe Bay, Texas.

The Community Service Award honors a person who has provided outstanding contributions in promoting and conducting recreational tennis programs. The recipient must also have at least three consecutive seasons of fieldwork in tennis through community centers, schools, parks, or similar institutions.

In the past few years, thousands of men, women and children of all backgrounds and abilities have benefitted thanks to Janel's efforts as the San Antonio Tennis Association programs director. When she first began her post, the number of participants rose from 2,500 to nearly 12,000, in just one year. This included children through after school and NJTL programs, seniors through a beginners program, military members through Wounded Warriors events, and special needs players through Adaptive and Special Olympics programs.

She has received recognition awards from Special Olympics Texas and the North East Independent School District. She partnered with the City of San Antonio to promote healthy lifestyles, by including tennis as part of the mayor's Fitness in the Park initiative. Participating fully in each program, she not only serves as the administrator, but she also enjoys interacting and coaching participants.

She is also a tennis official for USTA, ITF and Big 12 matches. She spends much of her time volunteering to help with league scheduling, sectional events, local tournaments and is also a multiple committee member for USTA Texas.

The recipient of this award automatically becomes a candidate for the USTA Eve Kraft Community Service Award. USTA Texas is currently accepting nominations for its 2016 Community Service Award. Applications can be found at www.texas.usta.com and are due by April 15. The entire awards banquet can be viewed at the USTA Texas YouTube page.

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USTA Texas

Located in Austin, USTA Texas is a not-for-profit volunteer organization with over 52,500 individual members and over 600 organizational members. Since 1895, USTA Texas have been one of the 17 sections of the United States Tennis Association, the governing body of tennis in America. USTA Texas is the third largest of the sections and features a Pathway of tennis programs for beginning, recreational and competitive juniors, adults and seniors. With hundreds of volunteers, USTA Texas is devoted to promoting and developing the growth of tennis in Texas. For more information about USTA Texas go to www.texas.usta.com, "like" the official USTA Texas Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ustatexas or follow us on Twitter @USTATexas.

For more information, contact: Derick Hackett, Communications Manager, USTA Texas (512) 443-1334 ext. 202; dhackett@texas.usta.com. Press release written by Pippa Horn, USTA Texas spring intern.



CUTLINE: (L to R): Joyce Dreslin, USTA Texas awards committee chair, Janel Woerner, Community Service Award winner and USTA Texas president Frank Kelly. Photo by Pippa Horn / USTA Texas.