



For Immediate Release
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Talladega Trustee Mr. Charles Matthews '78 to Speak at Alumni Banquet



Talladega, AL - Talladega College Trustee Mr. Charles Matthews '78, the president and CEO of Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas, will speak at the Alumni Banquet on Saturday, May 5, 2018 at 5 p.m. in the Callanan Gymnasium.

Mr. Matthews oversees the daily operations, strategy, growth and administrative activities of WEC Energy Group's two Illinois utilities that collectively provide natural gas service to nearly one million customers in Chicago and 54 communities within the northern suburbs. Peoples Gas is a subsidiary of WEC.

Mr. Matthews has over 30 years of energy industry experience in operations, finance, marketing, risk management, and mergers and acquisitions. Prior to taking the helm at Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas, he spent nine years in executive and leadership positions at We Energies and served as senior vice president - wholesale energy and fuels and customer solutions. While at We Energies, Mr. Matthews was responsible for the procurement of natural gas, coal and other commodities used in electric generation, long-term wholesale marketing activities and the management of relationships with the company's largest commercial and industrial customers. Prior to joining We Energies, he served as president and chief executive officer – Jamaica Public Service Co. Limited, a subsidiary of Mirant Corp. He helped structure and then led the company's transition from government-owned to private ownership.

Mr. Matthews earned a Bachelor of Science degree in economics from Talladega College and a master's degree in finance from Clark Atlanta University School of Business. He also completed the University of Pennsylvania Wharton Business School's executive program in utility finance. He is a member of the board of directors of Navy Pier, World Business Chicago, Chicago Urban League, Illinois Utility Business Diversity Council, Ounce of Prevention Fund, and Talladega College. He is also active with several organizations and nonprofits in Chicago including Chicago United, Commercial Club of Chicago and its Civic Committee.

For more information on the Alumni Banquet or other Alumni Weekend events, visit www.talladega.edu or call 256-761-8832.

About Talladega College

The oldest private Historically Black College in Alabama, Talladega College was founded in 1867 by two former slaves, William Savery and Thomas Tarrant. Talladega College is the home of the renowned Hale Woodruff Amistad Murals, which received rave reviews from *The New York Times* during a three year, eight-museum tour.