



**Marshall**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

# MARSHALL EDC BOARD & STAFF



**Board:** Colin Brady (*Chairman*), Keith Hill (*Vice-Chairman*), Orlando Valle (*Secretary/Treasurer*), Amy Hooper (*Director*), & Doug Lewis (*Director*)

**Staff:** Rush Harris, CEcD (*Executive Director*), Dr. Felecia Herndon (*Vice-President*), Teresa Wright (*Assistant to the Executive Director*), Heather Hill (*Administrative Coordinator*), & Amber Thibodeaux (**Marketing & Communications Associate**)

## MARSHALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT'S MISSION

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**T**he mission of the Marshall Economic Development Corporation is to serve as an instrument of the City of Marshall in strengthening and growing the local economy. We support primary employers and primary jobs by retaining and expanding existing businesses, attracting new investment, and fostering quality employment opportunities. Through collaboration with local, regional, state, and national partners, we take a comprehensive approach to economic development—one that builds community wealth, encourages inclusive participation, and enhances the well-being, opportunity, and prosperity of all Marshall residents.



## WHAT WE FOCUS ON PRIORITIES

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Marshall's future is built on the people, businesses, and neighborhoods that make our community strong. Our organization is committed to creating an environment where local businesses can grow, new opportunities can take root, and every generation has a path to success. By investing thoughtfully in education and infrastructure, we are laying the groundwork for a resilient and inclusive economy that serves today's needs while preparing for tomorrow. This vision is realized through workforce development that supports residents from early learning through retirement, the preparation of development-ready industrial sites that attract quality jobs, and partnerships with the private sector that ensure economic growth benefits the entire community.

# EDC REAL ESTATE



## **1108 Commerce**

1108 Commerce St Marshall,  
Harrison County, TX, 75672



## **Defense property**

7300 Regency Road, Marshall,  
Harrison County, TX, 75672



## **Gateway Park**

Gateway Park Drive Marshall,  
Harrison County, TX, 75672



## **Five-Notch**

Five Notch Road Marshall,  
Harrison County, TX, 75672



## **Marshall Business Park**

Regency Road Marshall,  
Harrison County, TX, 75672



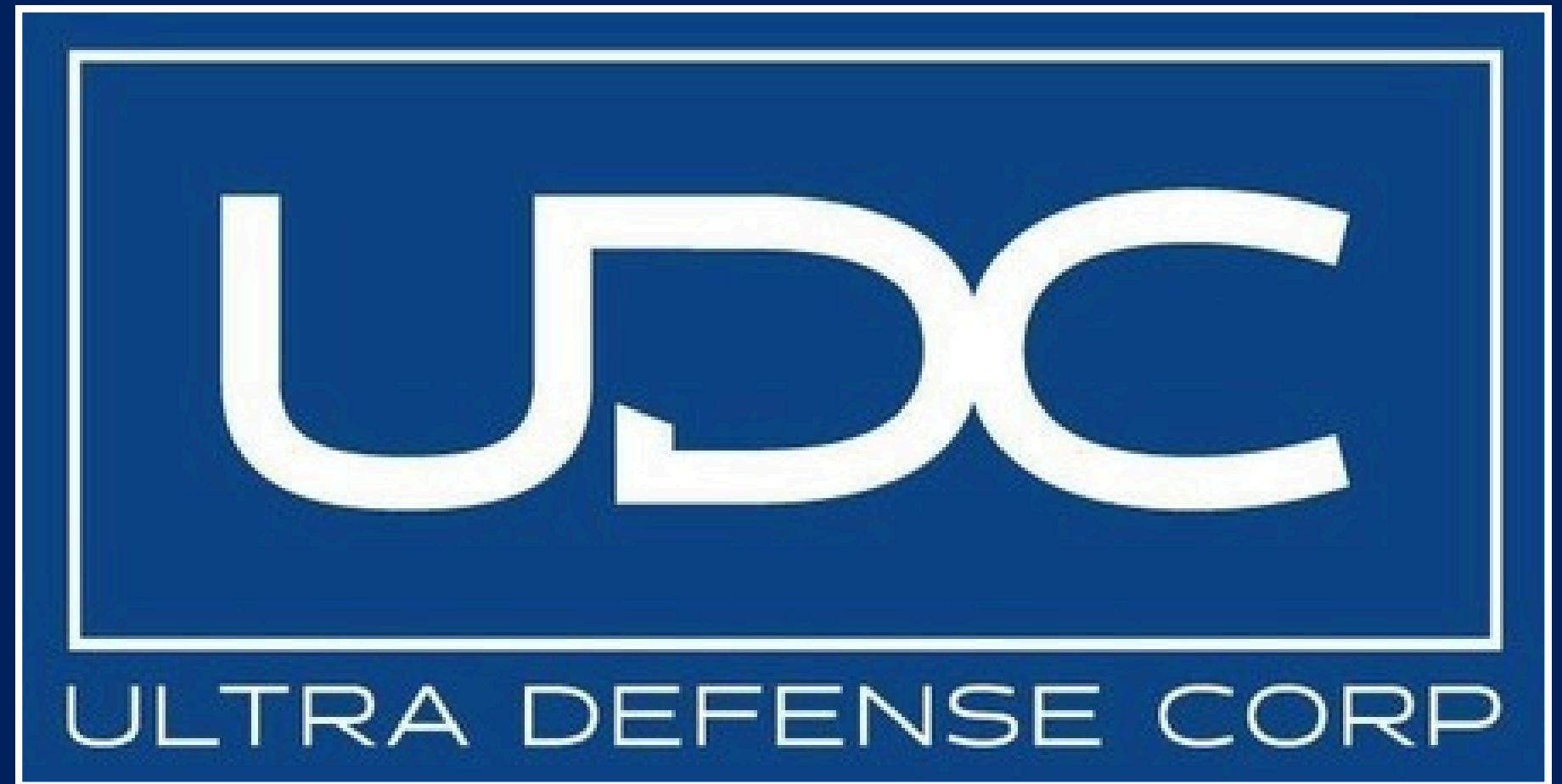
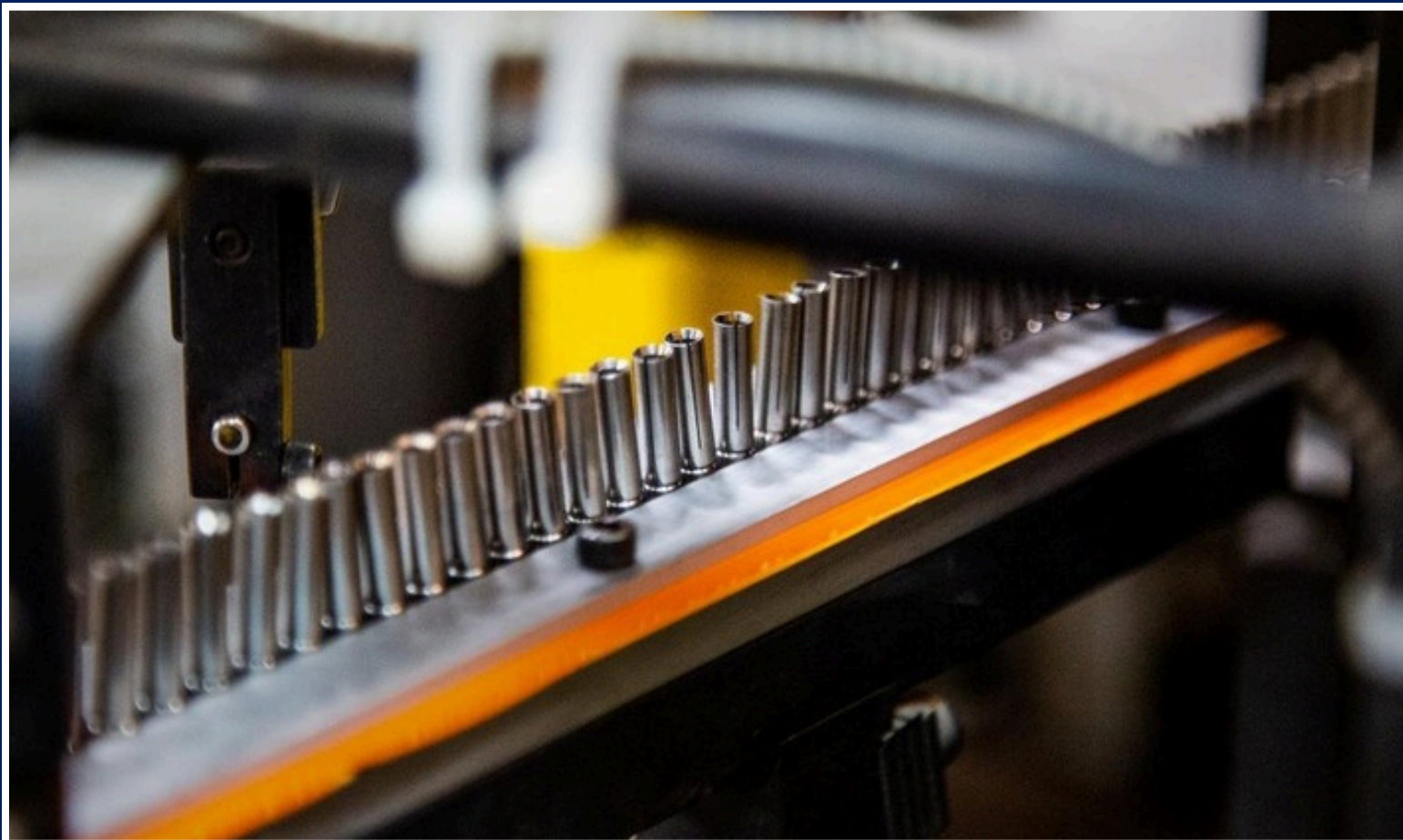
## **I-20 & Hwy 43 Property**

Brown Road Marshall,  
Harrison County, TX, 75672

# PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

**Ultra Defense Corp (UDC)** is an American-owned small business based in Tampa, Florida, founded in 2010. The company provides **specialized defense manufacturing and contracting services to the U.S. Government, allied nations, and global defense partners**. Operating as a prime contractor, subcontractor, and manufacturer, UDC supports every U.S. geographic combatant command, including U.S. Special Operations Command, playing a vital role in national security.

As part of its continued growth, UDC has selected Marshall for a new munitions manufacturing operation, leasing property in the Marshall Business Park from the Marshall Economic Development Corporation. The project includes construction of ground bunkers to expand explosive storage capacity and represents a **\$12 million capital investment**. It is **expected to create 65 new high-quality jobs**, further strengthening Marshall's advanced manufacturing and defense industry presence.



# 2025 Projects

## Project Chalk – Defense Manufacturing Expansion

- \$12 million capital investment
- 65 new high-skill jobs created
- Expansion of national defense supply chain presence

## Project Crawford – Energy Infrastructure Project

- Assisted Harrison County with a \$425 million energy project
- Regional-scale infrastructure investment
- Strengthened long-term energy capacity and economic resilience

## High Demand Job Training (HDJT) Program

- \$420,000 total project funding
- Manufacturing & engineering pathway launched
- Dual-credit alignment with TSTC-Marshall

## Downtown Wi-Fi Initiative

- \$27,000 MED investment
- 5 antennas installed
- Free public Wi-Fi with supporting signage and website

## Business Attraction & Site Development

- 100+ acres advanced toward shovel-ready status
- Engineering, photography, and digital site assets completed
- New website launched

## Certificate of Occupancy Bonus (COB) Program

- \$730,000 private investment leveraged
- 3 downtown projects supported
- Enhanced retail, co-working, and service spaces

## Community Engagement Events

- Annual Meeting attendance: 160+
- Career Expo participation: 750+ students
- WE Align participation: 42 organizations representing 11 industries

# 2025 Highlights

Restructured Workforce and Education Alignment Group (WE Align) and adopted formal bylaws

Secured High Demand Job Training Grant from the Texas Workforce Commission

Launched Principal for a Day initiative connecting business leaders with campus principals

Hosted Annual Career Expo with over 50 companies, and 7 colleges

Recognized 9 Career & Technical Education (CTE) Students of the Month.

Supported STEM education through continued funding of Marshall ISD's Science Mill Camp, as well as George Washington Carver Community Center's coding camp.

Hosted inaugural MEDC Annual Meeting with community and business leaders.

Convened the 3rd Annual Marshall Economic Summit focused on long-term community visioning.

Supported downtown small business and property improvements through COB and related programs

Advanced professional development and certifications for MEDC staff, maintaining CEcD, PCED, EDFP credentials and completing Basic Economic Development (BEDC) training

MEDC Board and the Marshall City Council approved the development of a formal Strategic Plan for the EDC

Began engineering and site-development work on more than 100 acres of MEDC-owned property to advance the sites toward full "shovel-ready" status for future employers

# WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

**Marshall Economic Development Corporation (MEDC)** awarded **Marshall ISD \$270,000** to **launch a new dual-enrollment manufacturing and technology pathway in partnership with Texas State Technical College–Marshall**. Beginning with ninth- and tenth-grade students, the program creates a four-year pathway leading to advanced dual-credit opportunities and high-demand careers in manufacturing and technology.

The funding comes through the **High Demand Job Training (HDJT)** grant from the **Texas Workforce Commission**, administered by **Workforce Solutions East Texas**, with matching state funds supporting MEDC's investment. Funds will be used for curriculum, equipment, and instructional supplies at Marshall High School and TSTC–Marshall. The initiative was encouraged by the **WE Align Council**.



# WE Align

Workforce & Education Alignment Group



In 2025, Marshall Economic Development Corporation strengthened its workforce initiatives through expanded partnerships, community engagement, and a more structured approach to education-to-career alignment. MEDC hosted workforce-focused discussions, highlighted apprenticeship and work-based learning models, and partnered with Marshall ISD for a successful Principal for a Day program.

A key milestone was the formal adoption of WE Align Council bylaws and clear goals, marking the transition from concept to a structured, action-driven initiative. Originally launched in 2021, WE Align now operates as a strategic advisory council bringing together education, industry, and workforce leaders to guide PK–12 workforce investments and ensure students gain relevant, in-demand skills.





# CTE STUDENT OF THE MONTH 2024-2025



SEPTEMBER 2024  
MORGAN MCGUIRE  
FFA



OCTOBER 2024  
JOSELYN ESPINOZA REYE  
WELDING



NOVEMBER 2024  
LIZETTE ACUNA GARCIA  
COSMETOLOGY



DECEMBER 2024  
RYAN WELLS  
FFA



JANUARY 2025  
CHARLEY DAVIS  
HEALTH SCIENCE



FEBRUARY 2025  
HECTOR MIRANDA  
CULINARY ARYS



MARCH 2025  
MARELI ARGOTE RODRIGUEZ  
BUSINESS



APRIL 2025  
ALORA JADE GREEN  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE



MAY 2025  
CAMERON ARCHFIELD  
EDUCATION

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THE MARSHALL  
**NEWS MESSENGER**

# 2025 ECONOMIC SUMMIT

The third annual Economic Summit, held under the theme “Imagine Our Future,” convened business leaders, educators, elected officials, and community stakeholders for a focused discussion on the priorities shaping Marshall’s long-term economic success. Designed to encourage dialogue and shared problem-solving, the Summit served as a platform for exploring workforce development strategies, business expansion opportunities, and the role of coordinated planning in strengthening the local economy.



# 2025 CAREER EXPO

With participation from 42 employers and more than 750 students and job seekers, the Career Expo demonstrated the strong commitment of the business community to workforce development and talent pipeline growth



# 2025 ANNUAL MEETING

Marshall Economic Development Corporation's Annual Meeting served as a cornerstone event for community engagement, bringing together more than 150 business leaders, elected officials, educators, workforce partners, and community stakeholders to reflect on the past year's accomplishments and to align around a shared vision for Marshall's economic future. The meeting provided a transparent and comprehensive review of organizational performance, highlighting program outcomes, major projects, workforce initiatives, and strategic investments that are strengthening Marshall's competitive position in regional and statewide markets.





# 2025 AT A GLANCE





# THANK YOU



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