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### President/CEO honored with Rising Star award

Darien, Ill. (Sept. 8) — JAK Creative Design President and CEO Jill A. Kerrigan was recently selected by the Women’s Business Development Center to receive the 2017 Deborah Sawyer Rising Star of the Year Award. Kerrigan formally received the honor at the organization’s annual conference, *WBDC<sup>2</sup>: Connect & Celebrate*, held on Thursday in Rosemont, Ill.

“I can’t fully express how grateful I am to receive this award,” said Kerrigan. “It’s such a wonderful and unexpected honor for both me and JAK.”

The Rising Star award is given to business owners who expertly implement innovative business processes, and demonstrate an ability to grow, adapt, and adjust to industry changes. Its recipients also show a strong commitment to the WBDC and to advocating for other women in business.

“I have watched Jill work hard to grow her business,” said Office/Billing Manager Krissy Oldham, who has worked at JAK for 11 of its 22 years as a business. “From taking educational courses to attending many events and conferences, Jill has been full steam ahead. She takes trips to see our current clients and makes sure our office is running smoothly. She is a superhero, and no one deserves this award more than her!”

Kerrigan is an alumna of Eastern Illinois University. She also completed the intensive Tuck School of Business program with the Women’s Business Enterprise National Council and the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program. She is a member of NAWBO, WBENC, and WEConnect International.

**ABOUT JAK CREATIVE DESIGN:** JAK Creative Design, located in Darien, Ill., is a branding and design agency that creates innovative graphic design solutions to help its clients achieve their goals. JAK’s team of designers, copywriters, and account executives has become an integral part of the creative initiatives of clients such as American Express, Exelon, ComEd, and Principal Financial Group. [jakcd.com](http://jakcd.com)

**ABOUT THE WBDC:** Founded in 1986, the WBDC is a nationally recognized nonprofit organization dedicated to women’s economic development. With its headquarters in Chicago, the WBDC serves women and diverse business owners throughout the Midwest. [wbdc.org](http://wbdc.org)

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