

Global Gazette

The latest news, updates, and announcements

In This Issue

**International Day of
the Disappeared**

**Corporate
Sponsorships & B Corp
Certification**

**Celebrating 10
years of Global**

Quote of the Month:

"If you don't believe in the mission and culture of a company, then you're in the wrong place." - Felix Villa



August: International Day of the Disappeared

The UN regards August 30th as the International Day of the Disappeared. Enforced disappearance is considered the arrest, detention, abduction, or any other form of deprivation of liberty by agents of the State. This violation of human rights is refused to be acknowledged by the oppressor, leaving the victims and their families with no justice. According to The Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances established by the UN Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner, the number of cases under active consideration that have not yet been clarified, closed, or discontinued stands at 46,490 in a total of 95 States. Although this is just one organization's report of cases there are many more victims that may not have been reported and tracked to this group. One of the great organizations working to advocate for victims is Amnesty International. This non-profit is actively campaigning cases of people who have been subjected to enforced disappearance and is continuing to pressure governments to determine the fate and whereabouts of all those who have been disappeared. Their work helps to investigate and prosecute the parties responsible for these violations of human rights.

Global Gives Back: Corporate Sponsorships



Global has had the opportunity this month to participate in two events benefitting substantial causes. Global helped sponsor the 2022 CMSDC Jim Osborne Scholarship Classic and the 24th Annual Hunger Scramble held by the Northern Illinois Food Bank. As a Certified Minority Owned Business, Global attended the Scholarship Classic in support of the Dolores Saxton Walker Scholarships. This year the scholarship fund supports 11 underprivileged minority students pictured above in their pursuit of higher education. This month Global also partnered as a Birdie Sponsor for the Hunger Scramble held by the NIFB. This event helped raise over \$130,000, which will help provide over \$1 Million worth of groceries that our neighbors need to thrive. We are honored to support the amazing work that the Northern Illinois Food Bank does for 310,000 individuals.

Global is extremely proud to announce it is now a Certified B Corporation.



This milestone is a major accomplishment for Global in its mission to innovate the way we do business to benefit our customers, community, and environment. B Corp Certification means that a company has been verified as meeting B Lab’s high standards for social and environmental impact. Global began the B Corp certification process in February of 2021 and became certified on August 30th, 2022. President Felix Villa noted, “12 years ago, I became familiar with the B Corp Certification and kept it in the back of my mind when I started Global. I had no idea I would be able to create a company that meets these standards for community involvement, employee-focused policies, and environmental consciousness, this is a big accomplishment in our first 10 years.”

A Decade of Opportunity

Global through the years...

Celebrating 10 years of successful business at Global is the perfect opportunity to reflect on where this team started. Global came as a spark of an idea from President, CFO, and Founder, Felix Villa. With previous experience in running his own business, Felix had a taste of entrepreneurial spirit that inspired him to start a brokerage firm. After 19 years at KeHE, Felix saw an opportunity to grow the business outside of its normal channels using the current working model to expand exports and add military channels. After some time as the SVP of Business Development at KeHE, Felix realized that KeHE shouldn't do this alone and how much potential this market could have with a company dedicated to this business. That is when Felix proposed a business plan to the President of KeHE to start the company needed to fill this gap.

In 2012 Global began with a team of 3 handling all of the growing pains of a new business. Elizabeth Villa, our current Office Manager has been with the team from the very first day. "In the beginning, it was a bit overwhelming with so much to do, it felt like there were not enough hours in the day." In the first few years, the team was able to grow to meet the demand of the export business. By 2015 Global had begun the domestic brokerage department and began taking on its own accounts. "It was a huge

change to get the support we needed. Looking back today it is incredible how far we have come. I am hopeful we will be able to keep growing and double the business we do now. I am excited to see what the next 10 years will bring and how the next generation will carry the company on."

You might be wondering, what makes Global special? How did this company grow in an industry full of challenges and competitors? What really sets Global apart is our experience and our values. For us, it's not about securing a commission check, every day we strive to find brands that bring value to our customers. We look for companies we can wholeheartedly represent because we genuinely believe in their brand's mission and the product's potential. One of the proudest moments for Global was 6 years ago during a period of business planning and development. At that time Felix and the team saw that they had achieved all of the goals they had set in the first few years. It was inspiring to know that they were able to structure a company that people wanted to stay with for years and the mission and values of the company were keeping them accountable. Reflecting back on this time Felix mentioned, "When we sat down to review I just said 'Wow!' Every year there is something new, we are always adding to our business and expanding what we can do for our employees which really is what motivates you to keep going."

