



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STERLING CONSTRUCTION'S RLW SUBSIDIARY WINS

FIVE 2012 BEST OF STATE AWARDS INCLUDING COVETED BOSS AWARD

HOUSTON, TX – June 18, 2012 – Sterling Construction Company, Inc. (Nasdaq GS: STRL), ("Sterling" or the "Company") today announced that its Utah subsidiary, Ralph L. Wadsworth Construction Company, LLC ("RLW"), won five Best of State Awards, taking home the medals in the *Heavy Construction*, *Structural Engineering*, *Sculpture* and *Digital Art* categories as well as the *BOSS (Best of State Statue)*. The *BOSS* is awarded to the overall winner in the Science and Technology division, and was presented at the Best of State Awards Gala, in Salt Lake City, on May 30, 2012.

The Best of State Awards were created to recognize annually outstanding individuals and the best organizations and businesses in Utah. Independent judges evaluated candidates based on their ability to:

- Demonstrate achievement and excellence, producing superior results and outcomes
- Differentiate themselves through innovation, creativity, approaches and processes
- Contribute to a better quality of life in Utah

Category winners from each of ten divisions received Best of State medals. Winners' nominations in each division were resubmitted to the judges and scored again. The highest scoring entry from each of the ten general divisions was selected to receive the BOSS, a 22-pound, gold-plated *Best of State Statue*. Since 2005, RLW has been awarded 6 *Best of State* medals for *Heavy Construction*, 8 medals for *Heavy Highway-Related Aesthetic Sculpture*, 1 medal for *Structural Engineering* and 3 *Best of State Statues* in the Business Services and Science and Technology divisions.

Kip L. Wadsworth, CEO of Ralph L. Wadsworth, stated, "We are delighted to once again be judged Best-in-State in the Heavy Construction and Structural Engineering categories, in the Science & Technology Division and receive two more awards in the Sculpture and Digital Art categories. We are proud to be able to continue to play an important role in building and maintaining Utah's infrastructure. All of us at RLW are committed to the continued pursuit of excellence, innovation and making an ongoing contribution to Utah's quality of life."

Sterling Construction is a leading heavy civil construction company that specializes in the building and reconstruction of transportation and water infrastructure in large and growing markets in Texas, Utah, Nevada and other states where there are construction opportunities. Its transportation infrastructure projects include highways, roads, bridges and light rail and its water infrastructure projects include water, wastewater and storm drainage systems.

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