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## Patrick McBride Presented with Big I Illinois Agent of the Year Award

Springfield, IL. (October 21, 2025) – Big I Illinois presented Patrick McBride of The McBride Agency in Dixon, IL, with the Big I Illinois Agent of the Year Award during the association's annual convention in Peoria earlier this month.

The Agent of the Year Award honors the outstanding performance and achievement of an individual who is a retail agent member of Big I Illinois. The nominee must be a licensed agent and contribute to their agency's performance through production, use of technology, professional development, and civic responsibility.

A U.S. Marine Corps veteran, McBride credits his military experience with shaping his discipline, resilience, and leadership style. Those same values drive his work today as an agency principal, where he's built a culture centered on growth, education, and purpose. He established the Education Alliance within his agency to make ongoing professional development accessible to every team member, believing that when you build the person, you build the business.

McBride is also committed to advancing the profession and his own expertise. He is pursuing his CIC designation and serves on Big I Illinois and national committees, where he helps shape technology and operational initiatives that support independent agents across the country.

"Patrick exemplifies the best of independent agents: driven by purpose, grounded in service, and constantly pushing to grow and help others do the same," said Phil Lackman, Big I Illinois CEO.

Beyond the industry, McBride is deeply engaged in his community. He has served on the CASA Board, mentors high school students through the Midland Institute's CEO program, and supports veteran and local organizations including 22 Mohawks and Paws for the Powerless.

Big I Illinois is an association representing independent insurance agents throughout the state. Big I Illinois membership is comprised of 800 insurance agencies representing 10,000 licensed independent agents engaged in all facets of the insurance industry, including property, casualty, life, and health. Its members offer customers a choice of policies from a variety of insurance companies. In addition to serving the professional needs of members, Big I Illinois works for the betterment of the insurance industry through legislative and consumer awareness programs. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.ilbigi.org">www.ilbigi.org</a>.