

FASTSIGNS® NAMED A TOP 50 FRANCHISE FOR WOMEN BY FRANCHISE BUSINESS REVIEW

- Independent Survey Shows Female Franchise Owners Are Highly Satisfied with FASTSIGNS'
Performance -

<u>FASTSIGNS International, Inc.</u>, franchisor of FASTSIGNS®, the leading sign, graphics and visual communications franchise, announced today that it has been named a top franchise for women by *Franchise Business Review* in its 2019 Top Franchises for Women Report.

"This recognition from *Franchise Business Review* is a testament to FASTSIGNS' commitment of equipping our franchisees with all of the necessary training, tools and resources needed to succeed," said Catherine Monson, President and CEO, FASTSIGNS International, Inc. "Female franchisees across the franchising industry continue to shape the future of business and we are proud to support those female franchisees in our system, as they have proven to be a true asset to our brand while providing sign, graphics and visual communications services to their local communities."

FASTSIGNS was among more than 265 franchise brands that participated in *Franchise Business Review*'s research on the Top Franchises for Women. FASTSIGNS' franchisees were surveyed on 33 benchmark questions about their experience and satisfaction regarding critical areas of their franchise systems, including leadership, training and support, financial opportunity, and work/life balance.

"We surveyed nearly 9,000 women franchise owners across the franchising sector, and FASTSIGNS was among the very best," said Eric Stites, CEO and Managing Director of *Franchise Business Review*. "In our 15 years of research, FASTSIGNS has consistently been among the top companies in franchising, scoring 20% to 35% above industry benchmarks in most areas. FASTSIGNS CEO Catherine Monson has done a tremendous job of developing relationships built on trust, and that is clearly reflected in the feedback we received from their franchise owners — with 92% saying that they respect FASTSIGNS' leadership."

Shawn Glenn and her husband, Mark, took ownership of <u>FASTSIGNS® of Carrollton</u>, Texas, in 2011. In their first three years, the Carrollton center's sales volume tripled. Today, Shawn and Mark own three additional FASTSIGNS centers in the Dallas area.

"Becoming a FASTSIGNS franchisee has allowed me the opportunity to own my own business, enjoy financial profitability, and maintain the flexibility I need to raise our family," said Shawn. "FASTSIGNS provides the operational resources I need as an owner, as well as opportunities for team training and marketing support on an ongoing basis. These unmatched components, along with the diligent work of our team, has made owning FASTSIGNS centers the perfect investment."

FASTSIGNS is known in the industry for equipping its franchisees with tools vital to securing the ongoing success of each individual location. In 2018, FASTSIGNS announced the launch of a special incentive for first responders, including paramedics, emergency medical technicians, police officers, sheriffs, and firefighters, which includes a 50 percent reduction on the franchise fee — a savings of \$24,875.

FASTSIGNS International, Inc. was ranked the #1 franchise opportunity in its category and 95 overall on *Entrepreneur* magazine's 2019 Franchise 500®, the world's first, best and most comprehensive franchise ranking. Acknowledged by entrepreneurs and franchisors as a top competitive tool of measurement, the Franchise 500® recognizes FASTSIGNS, the only sign, graphics, and visual communications franchise to be recognized in the top 100, for its exceptional performance in areas including financial strength and stability, growth rate, and brand power. FASTSIGNS was recently named to the 2019 America's Best Franchises to Buy list by *Forbes* magazine. FASTSIGNS also made *Franchise Direct*'s list of the Top 100 Franchises 2019 and ranked #2 on this year's *Franchise Gator* Top 100 list, both ranking the best franchises for 2019. FASTSIGNS has also been ranked by *Franchise Business Review* as one of the "Best of the Best" for franchisee satisfaction for the last 10 years. Additionally, FASTSIGNS was also named to *Franchise Business Review*'s "Innovative Franchises" list in 2017 and a "Best-in-Category" franchise by *Franchise Business Review* in 2018. In 2019, the Canadian Franchise Association (CFA) awarded FASTSIGNS International, Inc. the Franchisees' Choice Designation for the seventh consecutive year for its strong relationship with Canadian franchisees, as well as extensive franchisee training and support.

About FASTSIGNS®

FASTSIGNS International, Inc. is the leading sign and visual communications franchisor in North America, and is the worldwide franchisor of more than 700 independently owned and operated FASTSIGNS® centers in nine countries including the United States, Canada, Chile, England, Grand Cayman, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Australia (where centers operate as SIGNWAVE®). Locations are slated to open in two additional countries - Malta and Spain - in 2019.

FASTSIGNS locations provide comprehensive signage and visual graphic solutions to help companies of all sizes and across all industries attract more attention, communicate their message, promote their products, help visitors find their way and extend their branding across all of their customer touch points.

FASTSIGNS centers provide architectural and interior decor graphics, fleet vehicle graphics, digital signs and digital signage content, event graphics, displays, banners, posters, ADA signage, safety and identification signs and much more, as well as handle everything from design to project management to installation.

FASTSIGNS International, Inc. is a recipient of many awards, including being ranked the #1 franchise opportunity in its category in Entrepreneur magazine's Franchise 500 for the past three years, and Best-in-Category in the business services sector on Franchise Business Review's list of the top 200 franchises for multiple years.

Learn more about sign and visual graphic solutions or find a location at <u>fastsigns.com</u>. Follow the brand on LinkedIn at <u>linkedin.com/company/fastsigns</u>, Twitter <u>@FASTSIGNS</u> or Facebook at <u>facebook.com/FASTSIGNS</u>. For information about the FASTSIGNS franchise opportunity, contact Mark Jameson (mark.jameson@fastsigns.com or call 214.346.5679).