For Immediate Release: February 22, 2018 Albemarle, NC

Sarasota, Florida based <u>Quality Enclosures</u> (<u>www.qualityenclosures.com</u>) announced today that it will be opening a new state of the art manufacturing operation in Albemarle, North Carolina. The new Stanly County location brings a total of \$3.3 million investment in facilities, building improvements and equipment, and will add 65 new jobs at their Albemarle site located on Mabry Drive. The company is a leading manufacturer of residential shower enclosures and tempered glass. The new facility will allow the company to serve their significant customer base on the east coast and in the Midwest. They manufacture and fabricate a complete line of shower and tub enclosures using superior workmanship and the highest quality materials.

Stanly County Chairman Joseph Burleson said "We are pleased to support a new business coming to Stanly County. This operation will bring back jobs and a multimillion dollar investment to a former manufacturing site and make use of the outstanding existing labor pool we have for this type of industry. This new project is the most significant job creation industrial announcement in Stanly County since 2011. The Board of Commissioners and I welcome Quality Enclosures and look forward to helping them grow and prosper in our community."

Governor Cooper announced a One NC grant of \$150,000 for the creation of new jobs in this rural location. The NC Rural Infrastructure Authority will provide significant support to renovate the existing building. The Stanly County Board of Commissioners recently approved a performance based incentive grant for a five year term which could total \$54,225. The City of Albemarle also approved a five year grant of support for the new operation which could be a total of \$47,750.

Mayor Ronnie Michael stated, "I am pleased to have Quality Enclosures locate their manufacturing operations in Albemarle and bring many years of family tradition and values. They are a leader and innovator in their industry and this facility will reflect this. I feel that having this company in our area will prove to be a growing opportunity for us both as they serve their growing markets from New England to Florida and create new jobs in Albemarle. This has been a team effort and we appreciate the assistance of Stanly County, the State of North Carolina, and Stanly Community College."

In addition to new equipment and building improvements, the company will purchase a 50,000 square foot building. The company is one of the largest shower door manufacturers in the southeastern U.S. with over 50 years in the industry. This will be

one of eight company locations, for an operation that currently employs more than 200 people.

"This announcement is a great example of the value of existing businesses in growing our regional economy," commented Rick Williams, Chairman of the Stanly County Economic Development Commission. "Because of an existing relationship with another supplier in the area we were able to successfully recruit a manufacturer that might not otherwise have been a client. One of the key questions we ask during our existing industry client visits is who your suppliers are and would there be value to you if they were to expand in Stanly County. This project is another way our economic development efforts are a continuous cycle of making connections with both existing companies and new businesses from out of state and around the world."

The Stanly County Economic Development Commission would like to thank our partners in this successful industry location of Quality Enclosures: Governor Roy Cooper; the NC Dept. of Commerce; the NC Rural Infrastructure Authority; the Economic Development Partnership of NC; Stanly County; the City of Albemarle; The Foundation For the Carolinas; Stanly Community College; and ElectriCities.

Albemarle is the county seat of Stanly County and located in the Charlotte USA Region. The area includes 10,000 acres of lakes, Morrow Mountain State Park, and the Uwharrie National Forest. The county is within one hour of Charlotte Douglas International Airport and offers businesses a competitive cost of operations in a convenient and beautiful natural setting.

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