



For Immediate Release
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Mobile Area Chamber Eagle Award Winners & Minority Business Advocate

Two minority-owned companies stand out for revenue and/or employee growth, while another is honored for its supplier diversity programs at the Mobile Area Chamber's Eagle Award luncheon today. It is the Chamber's 19th annual program designed to recognize minority-owned companies' successes and supplier diversity efforts.

Nichols Financial Services and **Perfecting That Cleaning Service** received Mobile Area Chamber Eagle Awards, and **Muskogee Technology** received the Rev. Wesley A. James Minority Business Advocate award.

"The Eagle Award winners are committed to their customers, their community and to a spirit of excellence. The same qualities that have made them successful in business have made them Eagle Award winners, said **Darrell Randle**, the Chamber's vice president of small business development.



Nichols Financial Services first started as a seasonal income tax preparation company when Larry Nichols was working in Detroit in 1976. He soon made it a full-time career and in 1996 moved the business to Mobile. The company's services include payroll taxes, investment, estate and retirement planning for small businesses, churches and individuals.

Cutline (left to right): Nichols Financial Services, Cheryl and Larry Nichols with their daughter, Keturah.

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Perfecting That Cleaning Service was started by Keaneacha Dockery 15 years ago. Over the years, she continues to add employees, providing clients in Mobile, Baldwin and Clarke counties with residential, commercial, construction and event clean-up services. In 2017, Dockery is planning to add a second location in Monroeville.

Cutline left to right: Perfecting That Cleaning Service, Keaneacha Dockery, owner, and Shanevia Sylvester, assistant.

Muskogee Technology has twice been a U.S. Department of Defense protégé. Director of Marketing Mal McGhee says they learned a great deal during those experiences and believes in paying it forward to other minority entrepreneurs. In addition to the mentoring and idea development McGhee has offered to entrepreneurs, Muskogee Technology hired its first procurement manager to secure its commitment to inclusion.

Owned by the economic development arm of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, the company is itself a small disadvantaged business enterprise. The Atmore-based manufacturer serves the aerospace, defense, machinery, energy, and oil and gas industries, specializing in precision machining, fabrication, electronics and carbon composites.



Cutline left to right: Muskogee Technology, Scott Randle, production supervisor; Mal McGhee, director of marketing; and Jeff Nelson, plant manager.

“Selecting a minority-owned business as the Chamber’s Minority Business Advocate of the Year is unique. Muskogee Technology has experienced tremendous growth over the past few years and is committed to utilizing local companies. This means more local and minority-owned firms will prosper as Muskogee Technology continues to grow,” says Randle.

These awards are part of the Mobile Area Chamber’s strategy to ensure all segments of the business community are prosperous and continue to grow.