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For More Information Contact: Susan Rak-Blanchard Director, Communications & Marketing 251.431.8641

Three Area Businesses Named Finalists for the Mobile Area Chamber Small Business of the Year Award

In the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Mobile Area Chamber asked its members to reflect on 2019 and tell us what stood out about their company. From the applications, a volunteer panel experienced in management, finance and business development, graded entries on a handful of criteria in the categories of:

- Business Operations and Impact;
- Financial Position
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Customer Service
- Market Strategy and
- Community Involvement

Today the Mobile Area Chamber recognized **Calagaz Printing**, **JJPR** and **WaveFly Powered by JMF Solutions** as finalists for its 2020 Small Business of the Year award. The winner will be announced on Thursday, Aug. 20.

The Chamber defines a small business as one with 100 or less employees, but this year's finalists have 18, 10 and 42 respectively.



Calagaz Printing

Head of Firm: Joe Calagaz, president Founded: 1991 Number of Employees: 18 Address: 3001 Mill St., Mobile Website: calagazprinting.com About: Calagaz Printing is a full-service commercial print shop providing materials, signage, apparel and more to local businesses and the national restaurant market.

Earlier this year, the company's print production dropped to zero and Calagaz

Printing pivoted to produce more than 180,000 face shields as a way to keep the current staff, maintain some revenue and serve the community.



<u>JJPR</u>

Head of Firm: Jennifer Jenkins, founder & president Founded: 2010 Number of Employees: 10 Address: 25895A Friendship Rd., Ste. C, Daphne Website: jjpragency.com About: JJPR has grown from an upstart with one account to a boutique public relations, marketing and events firm serving small- and midsized clients along with nonprofits and large companies. In

addition to its core services, the JJPR team has expertise in research, advertising, branding, social media, email marketing and web development services.



WaveFly Powered by JMF Solutions

Head of Firm: Mike Francis, chairman & CEO Founded: 2005 Number of Employees: 42 Address: 1008 Randall Ave., Daphne Website: wavefly.com About: The telecommunications company operates its own broadband network and has multiple data centers and offices throughout the U.S. WaveFly provides managed network services, Fiber, Cloud, VOIP and IPTV

(streaming television) to a client list that includes residential communities, healthcare, banking, industrial and other service providers with managed network services, Fiber, Cloud, VOIP and IPTV (streaming television).

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About the Mobile Area Chamber

The Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce is a private business organization with more than 1,800 members that employ 98,255 people, and the economic developer for the City of Mobile and Mobile County. We represent business interests of the Mobile region, advocating for business-friendly legislative polices and serve as a resource for small businesses and area entrepreneurs. Additional information is on the Chamber's <u>website</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.