PRESS RELEASE

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U.S. Chamber of Commerce Awards Mobile Chamber 5-Star Accreditation



MOBILE, Ala. - The Mobile Chamber has been awarded a five-star accreditation from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the highest level of accreditation available. The U.S. Chamber's accreditation program is the only one of its kind which defines excellence in chamber performance and planning. There are roughly 7,000 chambers of commerce throughout the country, but only 146 chambers nationwide and three in Alabama carry this prestigious honor.

"It's an honor to be recognized by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for our steadfast commitment to the Mobile area," said Mobile Chamber President and CEO Bradley Byrne. "Accreditation is a testament to the Chamber's volunteer leadership and staff who strive for excellence in all that we do. The Mobile Chamber was first accredited in 1966, and we're proud to have maintained this elite status for nearly 60 years."

By earning this honor, the Mobile Chamber has demonstrated strong business practices, outstanding contributions to the community, and a promotion of policies that support job creation, innovation and entrepreneurship throughout the region. This application process covers nine areas including governance, finance, human resources, government affairs, communications, technology, facilities, benchmarking and program development.



"Chambers of commerce that achieve an accreditation designation are truly leaders in their industry" said Raymond P. Towle, U.S. Chamber Vice President, Federation Relations and IOM. "When chambers of commerce earn the distinction of becoming accredited, it is a mark of excellence for the organization, its staff and its leadership. This rigorous review includes all aspects of a chamber's policies, operations, and programming, and accredited chambers are recognized for their ability to serve as a resource to their region's businesses while maintaining transparent governance practices, sound financial controls, safe work environments, effective communications and value in programming. They are commended for their continued advocacy of free enterprise and for their commitment to serving members and their local businesses."

The purpose of the U.S. Chamber's Accreditation Program is to facilitate continuing excellence in the chamber industry and to foster a pro-business environment across America. Local chambers are rated Accredited, 3-Stars, 4-Stars, or 5-Stars. The final determination is made by the Accrediting Board, a committee of U.S. Chamber board members.

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About the Mobile Chamber

The Mobile Chamber is a private business organization with more than 1,700 members and the economic developer for the City of Mobile and Mobile County. The Mobile Chamber's focus is to provide members with networking, marketing and professional development opportunities, expand jobs in the area, develop the local workforce, advocate legislative priorities and offer resources to help small businesses grow. 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>.