

### PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Denise Curtis
Director of Communications
Mobile Chamber
(256) 496-4208
dcurtis@mobilechamber.com

## Mobile Chamber to Announce the 2024 Small Business of the Year

### **Download Photos**

**MOBILE, Ala.** - The winner of the Mobile Chamber Small Business of the Year award will be revealed during the Small Business of the Year Awards Luncheon, presented by Merchants and Marine Bank, on Tuesday, January 14 at the Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel.

Who: Mobile Chamber

What: 2024 Small Business of the Year Awards Luncheon

When: Tuesday, January 14, 2025

Where: Renaissance Mobile Riverview Plaza Hotel, Bon Secour Ballroom, 64 S. Water Street,

Mobile, AL 36602

Why: To recognize the 11 Small Business of the Year finalists and name the 2024 Small

Business of the Year

The annual Small Business of the Year awards recognize the very best businesses with 100 or fewer employees.

Applicants are evaluated by a committee and chosen based on five primary criteria: business operations, financial position, innovation and strategy, and community impact.

#### The 2024 Small Business of the Year Finalists include:



### **Bama Pest Control**

Bama Pest Control, Inc. is a family-owned, service-disabled veteran-owned business serving Mobile, Baldwin and Washington counties since 1980. Founded by Clarence and Ruthie Johnson, the company provides comprehensive pest management solutions, including termite, wildlife and wood-destroying organism control. Known for honesty, integrity and innovative technology like the Termatrac T3i, Bama Pest Control also supports the community through outreach

programs, mentorship initiatives and Chamber involvement. With plans to expand into mosquito and turf pest control, the company remains committed to exceptional service and fostering local economic growth. Read more.



# **Harvey and Thomas Orthodontics**

Harvey & Thomas Orthodontics, a Mobile Chamber member for 27 years, specializes in braces and Invisalign. The practice focuses on creating healthy smiles while fostering strong community connections. Since rebranding in 2016, the company has doubled its team, added a third orthodontist and expanded with a new location in Saraland. Committed to accessibility, it donates braces to children in need and

supports schools with giveaways and sponsorships. Through volunteerism, mentorship and inclusive payment options, Harvey & Thomas Orthodontics exemplifies excellence in care and community impact. Read more.



# J Hunt Enterprises

J Hunt Enterprise General Contractors LLC, founded in 1997, has grown from a lawn care company into a leader in civil construction. Serving Mobile County, J Hunt specializes in lot clearing, dirt work and material supply services. They develop subdivisions, sports fields, playgrounds and safe roads, fulfilling a mission to enhance quality of life through residential and recreational projects. A Chamber member since 2020, J

Hunt supports Habitat for Humanity and engages in community efforts like coaching baseball at Bishop State Community College. With strong growth, expanded licensing and dedicated team members, J Hunt exemplifies excellence. Read more.



# **Keith Air Conditioning**

Keith Air Conditioning, Inc. has been a trusted provider of HVAC and generator services across the Gulf Coast since 1964. This family-owned business, led by Brent and Matt Keith, offers residential and light-commercial HVAC services, as well as standby generator installation and maintenance. A Carrier Factory Authorized Dealer for 60 years, Keith Air Conditioning has earned the prestigious Carrier President's

Award twice. Committed to community and customer service, the company supports local organizations, empowers its employees and maintains a focus on innovation, quality and growth. Read more.



# **Kimberly Coleman - State Farm**

Kimberly Coleman State Farm has made a significant impact. Offering a wide range of insurance products, including commercial business, auto, home, life and pet insurance, Coleman and her team focus on providing peace of mind to customers during their toughest moments. A Mobile Chamber ambassador and community advocate, Coleman sponsors local events, volunteers and supports initiatives like Fostering

Together. Committed to personal service and accessibility, her office serves Mobile and surrounding areas while fostering connections through networking and community involvement. Coleman exemplifies dedication to clients and community. <u>Read more</u>.



# Kloud 7, LLC

Kloud 7, LLC has revolutionized business telecommunications for nearly a decade. Specializing in advanced communication solutions, Kloud 7 leverages cutting-edge technology and georedundant data centers to deliver secure, reliable service. Guided by core values of growth, expertise and trust, the company prioritizes proactive, customer-focused support. Kloud 7's involvement with the Mobile Chamber, from

attending ribbon cuttings to serving on advisory boards, highlights their dedication to the local business community. With 11+ years of experience, Kloud 7 continues to empower businesses with innovative, tailored communication solutions. Read more.



## L.A. Fotographee

L.A. Fotographee & The Dezine Firm specializes in photography, graphic design and web design. Founded by L.A. Alston in 2011, the company has grown into a dynamic team of four, including two full-time and two part-time members. Beyond serving clients, they mentor aspiring photographers and give back through the Bounce Back Youth Leadership Foundation, which empowers kids to explore creative

passions. With a focus on storytelling, collaboration and client satisfaction, the business aims to launch an after-school program within three years to nurture future visual artists and entrepreneurs. Read more.



# Merrill P. Thomas Co., Inc.

Merrill P. Thomas Co., Inc. has been a leader in commercial and industrial real estate since 1992. Founded by Merrill P. Thomas and now a second-generation family business, MPTCO specializes in commercial real estate development, brokerage and property management across the Gulf Coast. Over the years, the company has evolved from a single-tenant retail focus to managing unanchored neighborhood shopping centers and warehouse properties. Active in the community,

MPTCO supports low-income housing initiatives, local organizations and Chamber events. Recognized as a top commercial real estate company, their commitment to excellence continues to shape the Gulf Coast region. Read more.



# **Rock & Roll Offs, LLC**

Rock & Roll Offs provides exceptional dumpster and portable toilet rental services tailored to commercial, residential, industrial and event clients. Founded in 2019 as The Can Man, the company rebranded in 2022, expanding its offerings to include rock hauling, restroom trailers and a fleet of over 150 dumpsters and 300 portable toilet units. Known for cleanliness, reliability and premium features, the company also supports

community organizations like Mobile Baykeeper and Women's Resource Center. Recognized with multiple awards, Rock & Roll Offs exemplifies service excellence and environmental responsibility. Read more.



# **Small's Mortuary Inc.**

Small's Mortuary and Cremation Services is a family-owned business known for compassionate care and exceptional service. Offering traditional funerals, veteran tributes and personalized memorials, the company recently added in-house cremation services and a newly established above-ground cemetery, which features mausoleum, crypt and niche spaces. With 45 dedicated professionals, state-of-the-art facilities and

innovative programs like fingerprint keepsakes, Small's Mortuary provides meaningful, dignified care. Active in the community, they sponsor local organizations, host grief support groups and participate in Chamber initiatives. Plans for facility enhancements and expanded services underscore their commitment to serving families with excellence and compassion for years to come. Read more.



### **Southern View Media**

Southern View Media specializes in simplifying digital marketing for local businesses. Founded in 2015 by Michelle Murrill, the agency offers tailored services, including website design, Google Ads, SEO, social media management and branding. With a team of 16 full-time employees, Southern View Media combines expertise with a commitment to local insight. Deeply involved in the community, the team supports

initiatives like Bras for a Cause Gulf Coast and the Small Business Disaster Recovery Specialists. Known for empowering businesses with impactful marketing strategies, Southern View Media exemplifies innovation and dedication. <u>Read more</u>.

The 2024 Small Business of the Year cash awards are generously funded by the Barkin Family Fund and Stoic Equity Partners.

The 2024 Small Business of the Year Awards program is made possible by presenting sponsor Merchants and Marine Bank and supporting sponsors Uniti, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama, Crow Shields Bailey PC, Persons Services Group, Bebo's Express Car Wash and WKRG News 5.

Applications are open now for the 2025 Small Business of the Year. Businesses can apply at https://mobilechamber.com/small-business/small-business-awards/

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### **About the Mobile Chamber**

The Mobile Chamber is a private business organization with more than 1,600 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 <a href="website">website</a>, <a href="Facebook">Facebook</a>, <a href="Instagram">Instagram</a>, <a href="LinkedIn">LinkedIn</a>, <a href="Twitter">Twitter</a> and <a href="YouTube">YouTube</a>.