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ST. TAMMANY CHAMBER AWARDS 5 STAR ACCREDITATION BY U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Covington, LA March 19th, 2019, The United States Chamber of Commerce today awarded the St. Tammany West Chamber of Commerce with 5-Star Accreditation for its sound policies, effective organizational procedures, and positive impact on the community.

“Each day, chambers of commerce are working hard to put the American dream within reach of every hardworking business owner” said Raymond P. Towle, IOM, CAE, U.S. Chamber vice president of Federation Relations and Institute for Organization Management. “The Accreditation designation tells chamber members, as well as the greater business community, this is an organization that has effective programs, sound finances, and is a strong advocate for their interests.”

Accreditation is the only national program that recognizes chambers for their effective organizational procedures and community involvement. In order to receive Accreditation, a chamber must meet minimum standards in their operations and programs, including areas of governance, government affairs, and technology. This extensive self-review can take 6-9 months to complete.

“The accreditation process is not one to be taken lightly. The application covers nine areas including governance, finance, governmental affairs, communications, technology, facilities, benchmarking, and programs. It considers several details in all of these areas including annual financial audits, membership, adherence to bylaws, utilization of the most current technology available, communications methods and grassroots involvement” Lacey Osborne, president and CEO stated, adding that the process took twelve months to complete. In 2000 we were awarded with Accredited status, in 2006 a 4-Star Accreditation status and since 2012 we have maintained a 5-Star Accreditation status.

Local chambers are rated Accredited, 3-Stars, 4-Stars, or 5-Stars. State chambers are recognized as either Accredited State Chamber or Accredited State Chamber with Distinction. The final determination is made by the Accrediting Board, a committee of U.S. Chamber board members.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than 3 million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations.

The mission of the St. Tammany West Chamber of Commerce is to promote and support businesses by being the resource of choice to the community, to empower business people to build a community where businesses can thrive, and citizens are proud to live.

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