

SALISBURY CHAMBER RECEIVES 4-STAR ACCREDITATION 2012

The Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce was once again awarded with 4-Star Accreditation by the United States Chamber of Commerce for its sound policies, effective organizational procedures and positive impact on the community.

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. Accreditation validates a chamber as having programs that benefit their local economy and for positively influencing action in their community.

SACC has earned Accreditation since 1966 and is the only accredited chamber in Maryland. Of the 6,936 chambers in the United States, 223 of these are Accredited. These elite chambers represent the top 3% of all chambers in the U.S.

“It’s a great tribute to the Lower Shore business community that we have a chamber that has been accredited by the U.S. Chamber since 1966,” stated Chamber President Sandy Fitzgerald-Angello. “This represents a lot of hard work by our members to complete the accreditation application. The 4-star rating shows that the officers and the board set a high standard for this organization.”

“The re-accreditation was a lot of hard work,” added Accreditation Committee Chair Tony Nichols. “The application consisted of over four hundred pages documenting the many projects and programs of the chamber. Thanks to the hundreds of hours invested by the committee members and the staff, we are proud to announce that we are once again a 4-star accredited chamber.”

The United States Chamber of Commerce provided SACC with feedback including, “The Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce has demonstrated a good track record of operating a successful chamber and achieving desirable results for its members.”

Since 1920, SACC has received many honors and recognitions. Last month, SACC was awarded the President’s Distinguished Community Leadership Award from Salisbury University for its contributions to the community through promoting economic prosperity, beautifying the area and supporting cooperation among businesses. In 2011, SACC received the Franklin P. Perdue School of Business Leadership Award.

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 national accreditation statistics are as follows:

- 17 are Accredited – 8%
- 48 are 3-star – 22%
- 75 are 4-star – 35%
- 77 are 5-star – 35%

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