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## U.S. Chamber Awards Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce with 5-Star Accreditation

DAYTON, Ohio – The United States Chamber of Commerce has awarded the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce with 5-Star Accreditation, an extraordinary distinction currently held by only one other chamber of commerce in the state of Ohio.

The Accreditation distinction is awarded in recognition of a chamber’s sound policies, effective organizational procedures, and positive impact on the community. This recognition puts the DACC among the top 1% of chambers of commerce nationwide; only 125 out of 7,000 chambers nationally are 5-Star Accredited.

“Now more than ever, chambers of commerce have stepped up to serve as a resource to the business community and advocates of free enterprise,” said Raymond P. Towle, IOM, CAE, U.S. Chamber vice president of Federation Relations and Institute for Organization Management. “Through the pandemic these chambers continue to lead while maintaining transparent governance practices, sound financial controls, safe work environments, value in programming and effective communications. They are commended for their sound policies and practices, and for this great accomplishment.”

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 rigorous and thorough, and allows us to continue to benchmark against other chambers of excellence,” said Chris Kershner, Dayton Area Chamber president & CEO. “To have achieved the highest Accreditation level is a testament to our business community, the leadership from our volunteers and the dedication of our staff. When an area business joins our chamber, they can be assured they’re gaining access to top talent, resources, and connections. And at the same time, they can take comfort knowing they’ve invested in an organization that’s being operated efficiently and effectively. The result is a

business community that's united and flourishing. A strong chamber of commerce stands at the center of it all, a secret to business success for our members.”

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Accreditation review occurs every five years. The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce has achieved a 5-star Accreditation since 2005.

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.

### **About Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce**

*The Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce brings together more than 2,200 businesses and organizations in a 9 county area surrounding Dayton, Ohio. The chamber strives to improve the region's business climate and overall standard of living through public policy advocacy, economic development initiatives and providing networking and training opportunities for its members. Nationally awarded with "5-Star Accreditation" from the United States Chamber of Commerce, the Dayton Area Chamber is widely recognized for its innovative programs and outstanding contribution to positive change in the region. Information about the Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce is available at [daytonchamber.org](http://daytonchamber.org) or 937-226-1444.*

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