

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Elaine Spalding
espalding@paducahchamber.org
Phone: (270) 443-1746

PADUCAH AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WINS NATIONAL AWARD!

PADUCAH, KY (August 5, 2011) -- The Paducah Area Chamber of Commerce received the prestigious “Chamber of the Year” award by the American Chamber of Commerce Executive’s Association (ACCE). The “Chamber of the Year” award is the highest achievement in the chamber profession, recognizing excellence in financial performance, member programs and internal operations.

The Paducah Chamber received the award at the ACCE Conference in Los Angeles, CA, on Thursday evening. Chamber President, Elaine Spalding and 2010 Chair of the Board, Helen Sims (Superior Care Home), attended the conference. The final step in the award process was an in-depth interview, conducted by ACCE Board members and previous award winning chamber executives.

“It was very exciting to be named the winner!” said Spalding. She continued, “We have the best business community and the most wonderful Board, volunteers, members and staff in the country. I am extremely proud of everything our team has achieved and pleased to be recognized by our professional organization.”

The Paducah Chamber became a qualifier when it placed above the national average in net percent gain in members, retention and non-dues income for 2010. ACCE’s “Chamber of the Year” qualifiers demonstrate a chamber’s mastery and application of core principles and techniques used by successful chambers of commerce across the United States.

The Paducah Chamber was then invited to apply for the “Chamber of the Year” award by submitting information about successful programs and internal processes. Finalists for the Award were announced in May and competed in an in-depth interview, held during the ACCE Conference in Los Angeles.

The Paducah Chamber has 1,000 members and is the largest business advocacy group in the region with an annual budget of \$700,000. The Paducah Chamber competed in the \$450,001 – \$900,000 total revenue category. Winners in the other size categories are:

\$450,000 and under Total Revenue Category

Laurinburg/Scotland County (NC) Area Chamber of Commerce

\$450,001 - \$900,000 Total Revenue Category

Paducah (KY) Area Chamber of Commerce

\$900,001 - \$2,000,000 Total Revenue Category

Greater Lafayette (LA) Chamber of Commerce
The Longview (TX) Chamber

\$2,000,001 and up Total Revenue Category

Knoxville (TN) Chamber
Lincoln (NE) Chamber of Commerce

ACCE is the only national organization dedicated to and driven by the issues and interests of chamber professionals. ACCE provides a nurturing environment for chambers of commerce and similar organizations to become successful by empowering their representatives with professional management and related resources.

For more information about ACCE, please contact Mick Fleming, President, 4875 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, VA 22302-9950, (703) 998-0072, fax (703) 931-5624 or visit www.acce.org

For more information about the Paducah Chamber, please contact Elaine Spalding, President, espalding@paducahchamber.org -- P.O. Box 810/401 Kentucky Ave., Paducah, KY 42002-0810, (270) 443-1746, or visit www.paducahchamber.org