



DOTHAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# *Press Release*

**June 29, 2009**  
**For Immediate Release**

**Contact: Melia McKean**  
**Director of Communications**  
**(334) 792-5138**

## **Dothan Area Chamber Awarded 4-Star Accreditation By U.S. Chamber Of Commerce**



**DOTHAN, Ala.** - Good news! The Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that after a comprehensive self-review, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce has awarded the organization with 4-Star Accreditation. This prestigious honor puts your Chamber among the top four percent of chambers nationwide. While a total of 14 chambers were awarded some level of accreditation, the Dothan Chamber was among only five receiving this distinguished 4-Star rating.

“Accreditation recognizes chambers for their high standards of practice, full accountability to members and steadfast commitment to community,” said Thomas J. Donohue, president and CEO of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. “We applaud these organizations for advancing these principles of free enterprise.”

This past year, the Chamber staff spent countless hours completing the Accreditation process. Their task: demonstrate competency in nine core areas ranging from finance to facilities. The result of the hard-work is evidenced by this impressive rating. But in truth, we should all be extraordinarily proud of this milestone achievement. It was a true team effort.

Continued

“Receiving 4-Star recognition is affirmation that the Dothan Area Chamber of Commerce is operating in a very efficient and well organized manner and is making a positive impact in the Wiregrass area,” stated Janice Shepard, vice president of administration. “We are excited to be recognized among the top chambers in the nation and very pleased and proud to honor our members with this recognition.”

The only national program recognizing chambers for their effective organizational procedures and community involvement, Accreditation allows the Chamber to renew, improve and promote sound business practices, policies and procedures.

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 is the world’s largest business federation representing more than three million businesses and organizations of very size section and region.

For more information about the Chamber’s Accreditation, please contact Melia McKean, director of communications, at (334) 792-5138 or **[mmckean@dothan.com](mailto:mmckean@dothan.com)**.

###