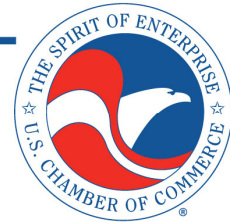

U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE NEWS

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South Carolina Small Business Owner Elected to U.S. Chamber Board of Directors

Award-Winning Leader Patricia Owen Tapped for Board Service

WASHINGTON, DC—The U.S. Chamber of Commerce board of directors has elected small business owner Patricia Owen to serve as a member of the board for 2009. Patricia is the award-winning owner of FACES Day Spa in Hilton Head, South Carolina.

“Patricia brings an excellent combination of both business and leadership experience to this position,” said U.S. Chamber President and CEO Thomas J. Donohue. “She will be highly valuable as a leader for the Chamber.”

As a member of the board of directors, Owen will address issues facing state and local chambers, associations, and other business groups to advance pro-growth policies and programs, as well as advise senior Chamber staff on a wide range of topics.

Prior to her board appointment, Owen served on the Executive Committee of the board of directors for the Hilton Head Island-Bluffton Chamber of Commerce and served as the chairman of the Small Business and Minority Council. She was the recipient of South Carolina’s 2006 SBA Small Business Person of the Year award.

On a national level, Owen has served as a member of the Small Business Council for the U.S. Chamber and also as a member of the National Association for Female Executives and The National Association of Women Business Owners. In 2007, under her leadership, FACES Day Spa received the U.S. Chamber’s award for Small Business of the Year for the Southeastern U.S. region.

The U.S. Chamber is the world’s largest business federation representing more than 3 million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region. The Chamber’s Board of Directors is the principal governing and policymaking body of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. The board’s membership is as diverse as the nation’s business community itself, with more than 100 corporate and small business leaders serving from all sectors and sizes of business, and from all regions of the country.

Directors determine the U.S. Chamber’s policy positions on business issues and advise the U.S. Chamber on appropriate strategies to pursue. Through their participation in meetings and activities held across the nation, Directors help implement and promote U.S. Chamber policies and objectives. ###