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Billings Chamber of Commerce
Convention and Visitors Bureau



Media Release

U.S. Chamber Awards Billings Chamber of Commerce/Convention & Visitors Bureau with Top 5-Star Accreditation Rating

Billings, MT, March 1, 2010: The United States Chamber of Commerce today awarded the Billings Chamber of Commerce/Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) with 5-Star Accreditation for its sound policies, effective organizational procedures, and positive impact on the community. Just one percent of all chambers in the United States possess this 5-Star accreditation rating.

“Accreditation validates a chamber as having programs that benefit their local economy and for positively influencing action in their community,” said Raymond P. Towle, IOM, CAE, U.S. Chamber Executive Director of Political Affairs and Federation Relations. “We applaud these organizations for advancing the principles of free enterprise.”

U.S. Chamber 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. Local chambers are rated Accredited, 3-Stars, 4-Stars, or 5-Stars. The final determination is made by the Accrediting Board, a committee of U.S. Chamber board members. This extensive self-review took the Billings Chamber/CVB board and staff more than six months to complete before turning the information over to U.S. Chamber officials for examination.

“To be recognized as one of the best chambers in the country is truly an honor,” said John Brewer CAE, President & CEO of the Billings Chamber/CVB. “The board and staff of this organization have a passion for our community and their work reflects this passion.” Brewer points to successes including new programs to help local businesses succeed, legislative efforts, tourism sales initiatives and the Billings Chamber/CVB’s role in Yes For Kids School funding and passing the Dehler Park bond issue, as contributing to the 5-Star designation.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world’s largest business federation, representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region. The mission of the Billings Chamber/CVB is to develop a strong business climate and vibrant economy by serving the community in a leadership role thereby enhancing the quality of life.

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For Immediate Release

Top Rating for Billings Chamber/CVB

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