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## Media Advisory

Billings Chamber Member Sanderson Stewart Named U.S. Chamber Blue Ribbon Small Business Award Winner



## For Immediate Release

<u>Billings, MT, February 20, 2014:</u> The U.S. Chamber of Commerce today named Sanderson Stewart of Billings, Montana a <u>Blue Ribbon Small Business Award</u> winner. The annual program recognizes companies for their dedication to the principles of free enterprise and contributions to restoring jobs and supporting economic growth. Sanderson Stewart was selected from a record number of applicants across the nation for demonstrating exceptional business practices in areas including strategic planning, employee development, community involvement, and customer service.

"When the opportunity to nominate a local member presented itself, Sanderson Stewart immediately came to mind," explained John Brewer, President and CEO of the Billings Chamber. "Their creative work environment, and problem solving approach to community development throughout the regional oil play makes them a perfect fit for such elite recognition."

Reflecting on his team and the recognition, Michael Sanderson, President and CEO of Sanderson Stewart shared, "I'm so proud of our team of *Cool, Smart, Talented People* at Sanderson Stewart. We've built a company with a sense of purpose and a great corporate culture, but it takes everyone pulling together to make it happen. This 'Blue Ribbon' award shows me that others have also recognized the truly special thing we've built."

Community members are encouraged to help Sanderson Stewart win the Community Excellence Award associated with this recognition. Voting is open until February 28<sup>th</sup> and is a simple, one-time, one-step process. Voting takes place online, <u>here</u>.

The U.S. Chamber will announce seven regional finalists on March 19 and honor all of this year's Blue Ribbon Small Business Award winners at the 10th annual <u>America's Small Business Summit</u>, taking place June 11 – 13 in Washington, D.C. During the summit, one regional finalist will receive the DREAM BIG Small Business of the Year Award, sponsored by Sam's Club®, and a \$10,000 cash prize courtesy of the U.S. Chamber.

"The Chamber is proud to honor these outstanding small businesses for their contributions to the country's economic recovery and continued hard work in their communities," Donohue continued. "They represent the creativity, the determination, and the resilience of the U.S. business community and are examples of the enormous potential of businesses and employees across the country."

A complete list of this year's Blue Ribbon Small Business Award winners is available <u>here</u>. Sanderson Stewart is not only the solitary winner in Montana for 2014, but they are the first Billings business to ever receive this award.

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. Its International Affairs division includes more than 50 regional and policy experts and 25 countryand region-specific business councils and initiatives. The U.S. Chamber also works closely with 116 American Chambers of Commerce abroad.

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The Billings Chamber/CVB represents you, our 1,200 members who employ more than 44,000 people. We help you grow your bottom line by connecting you to opportunities and advocating for your business and our community.