



PRESS RELEASE

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Bay County Chamber of Commerce brings home prestigious awards

Panama City, Fla. (October 16, 2009) ----- Sean McNeil, Chairman of the Board for the Bay County Chamber of Commerce announced today that the organization was recognized by the Florida Association of Chamber Professionals (FACP) with the 2009 Professional of the Year Award and an Outstanding Communications Award for the Bay Biz newsletter.

The presentations took place at the combined Florida Chamber of Commerce and FACP 89th Annual Leadership Conference held Oct. 12 -14 in Orlando, Florida. Over 600 top Chamber and business professionals were in attendance, and many were recognized for their outstanding achievements.

Carol Roberts, President and CEO of the Bay County Chamber of Commerce was present for the event and received the awards on behalf of the organization. Roberts was recognized as the 2009 Professional of the Year. The award is one of the major highlights of the annual conference. FACP presents this award to recognize a chamber executive who has made outstanding contributions to the world and work of chamber management. Roberts was selected based on internal administration, membership base, overall organizational accomplishments, strategic/long range planning, communications and volunteer management. In addition, Roberts is a veteran Chamber executive with 32 years of service to the organization. She also has led the organization through the accreditation process of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and certification from the Florida Association of Chamber Professionals. She serves on the FACP Board of Directors, serves as the Northwest Florida Regional Chairman of FACP, immediate past chair of the Northwest Florida Chamber Coalition and numerous other community organizations and boards.

The purpose of the Outstanding Communications Awards is to recognize outstanding achievements in chamber marketing materials in various areas. The publications are judged on the following criteria: design, quality and content.

“It was an honor to receive the awards. Any time we can bring awards such as this to our community, it brings attention to our area of Florida. I commend our professional staff for creating quality publications that tell the Chamber’s story to the community that it serves,” said Roberts.