Chamber Names Winners of the 2012 Small Business of the Year Awards

Tampa, Fla. – The Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce announced the winners of the 2012 Small Business of the Year Awards at a ceremony on Friday, September 29, at the Tampa Convention Center. More than 700 attendees celebrated the accomplishments of Tampa Bay’s small business community and toasted the evening’s big winners.

This year’s event was presented by Sam’s Club and represents the 32nd year the Chamber has recognized this key segment of the region’s economy. Small business awards were presented in three categories based on the number of employees. Companies are evaluated on financial success, community involvement and ethical business practices. An award was also presented to the Outstanding Small Business Leader of the Year.

The 2012 Small Business of the Year Award winners are:

**Outstanding Leader: Kevin Hourigan, Bayshore Solutions**
Kevin Hourigan is President and CEO of Bayshore Solutions, a 16 year-old Web Design, Web Development and Internet Marketing agency headquartered in Tampa with a second office in Ft. Lauderdale. In January 1996, Kevin Hourigan and two partners set out to help businesses enter the online marketplace with two computer servers in a closet, super-cooled by a big fan from Home Depot, and launched a company called Weblink Communications, which became Bayshore Solutions in 2001. Riding the huge internet success wave, in 2000, the firm faced the dot-com bubble burst and was forced to restructure. Hourigan’s leadership allowed the firm to rebound, having achieved bold, solid and debt-free growth through 2012.

**5 – 20 Employees: Adcock Financial Group**
For three generations, Adcock Financial Group has been providing financial services to successful business and high net worth families in the Tampa Bay area. The firm’s efforts are concentrated in the areas of estate and wealth transfer planning, asset management, corporate retirement planning and employee benefits. Their affiliation with National Financial Partners, (NYSE: NFP) provides access to the most sophisticated products and services available in the marketplace.

**21 – 50 Employees: Pegasus TransTech**
Pegasus TransTech Corporation helps transportation companies go paperless, improve efficiency, speed cash flow, and boost profit with state-of-the-art scanning, document management and workflow solutions. Pegasus formed in 1998 to focus on solutions for the transportation industry. In the early years, the company struggled to achieve profitability due to a highly fragmented market and its dependency on one-off software sales. Over the next few years, the company was transformed from a software company with 6 percent annual recurring revenue to a transaction service company operating on over 90 percent annual recurring revenue.

**51 – 250 Employees: Hunter Warfield**
Hunter Warfield is a fully licensed revenue recovery firm, providing debt collection services for specialty industries, including the multifamily, commercial and funeral care markets. Hunter Warfield is known for their innovative technology, customized by their own IT team. Their cutting edge systems streamline the collection process and provide clients with full disclosure and transparency on all account activity. Despite adversity, Hunter Warfield has gone from a 30-person company with one U.S. location to a 130-person company with a home office in Tampa and an international office in Guatemala.

For more information on the Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce, please visit www.tampachamber.com.

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