



Kentucky Chamber
Uniting Business. Advancing Kentucky.

NEWSLINK



Quick Links

May 18, 2011

Have your voice heard, join the small business committee

The Kentucky Chamber would like to hear from you on issues important to your business. The small business committee is responsible for reviewing the Chamber's legislative priorities and their sensitivity to small employers. Because small businesses are often disproportionately affected by challenges facing the economy, the small business committee focuses on ensuring the broad range of issues of particular importance to small business owners are adequately represented in the Chamber's policy development process. Contact [Beverly Standifer](#) at 502-848-8733 to be added to the committee.

Energy and education topics to take center stage at Business Summit

As a small business owner, you are often caught up in the day-

Celebrate Small Business Week May 16-20

Small Business Week celebrates innovators and job creators

President Obama declared May 16-20, 2011, Small Business Week in America to recognize the contributions small businesses across the country make to our economy. According to the United States Small Business Administration, small businesses create between 60-80% of the new jobs in the U.S. That kind of effort can only be driven by true innovators, many of which are located right here in the Commonwealth - a total of 73% percent of Kentucky Chamber members report having 100 employees or less. The Chamber is proud to offer its support to the small businesses of Kentucky, and we congratulate them on another year of hard work.

Member small business receives statewide and national recognition

Over the past year, Kentucky Chamber Member [DMD Data Systems](#) has received many accolades (see list). This week DMD President Dave Sevingy, who was also recently named the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2011 Kentucky Small Business Person of the Year, is in Washington D.C. attending the [National Small Business Week Conference](#). As the Kentucky Small Business Person of the year, Sevingy is competing for the National Small Business Person of the Year title against other businesspeople from each state. The winner will be announced at the conference this week.

"I don't know what to expect, but I have a one-out-of-52 shot," he joked.



DMD Data Systems:

- provides computer hardware and software systems to education, health care, government and business groups.
- is headquartered in Frankfort.

to-day operations of your company – utility costs, hiring staff, insurance, payroll, etc. Many of these operational costs are affected by the decisions of lawmakers in Washington D.C. and Frankfort. During the Chamber's [Business Summit and Annual Meeting](#), presented by [Greenebaum Doll and McDonald](#) on July 11-12, you will have the opportunity to gain more insight into why these decisions are made and what they will mean to your bottom line.

[MORE](#) ➔

Office Depot brings [two great deals](#) for Kentucky Chamber members in May!

Offer #1: [30% off eco-friendly paper](#)

Offer #2: [Free gift with purchase](#)

These Office Depot deals are applied on top of the everyday discounts Kentucky Chamber members receive, through the month of May. Contact [Denise G. Scott](#) for more information about this and other member savings programs.

Quote of the Day

"A man isn't a man until he has to meet a payroll."

-- Ivan Shaffer

Sevingy, who founded DMD Data Systems in 1996, says the strength of his and other small business comes from the employees.

"Finding the right people to work in your organization is always a problem," he said. "All people who work for DMD are eventually made partner. When we bring employees in we want them to become a partner. ... You have to find the right people to do that."

One of the many challenges small businesses face, Sevingy says, is the weight of everyday decisions.

"Decisions could sink you or make you great. There's not a lot of leeway."

Defining your small business' values is also a key to the success of your business, Sevingy says.

"Our values are important to us. We live our values (fairness, stewardship and urgency) versus throwing them up on a wall."

Sevingy also has a strong belief in the value of chamber membership.

"Your value is advocacy for business," he said. "For the amount of money that I pay, I couldn't get a better advocate than the Kentucky Chamber."

[Small Business Administration honors Chamber members](#)



Sevingy

Spears

Turner

In addition to naming Sevingy Kentucky Small Business Person of the Year, the U.S. Small Business Administration also named Chamber board member and CEO of TKT & Associates Tierra Kavanaugh Turner the Kentucky SBA Minority Small Business Champion of the Year, and Terry Spears, Small Business Banking Officer for member company Community Trust Bank in Pikeville, is the Kentucky SBA Financial Services Champion of the Year.

- has a staff of 15 employees
- was recently named a 2011 Pacesetter Business, the 2010 Commerce Lexington Small Business of the Year, and made the Inc 5000 Fastest Growing Private Companies and CRN Fast Growth 100 lists in 2010.
- President Dave Sevingy was recently named the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2011 Kentucky Small Business Person of the Year.