



USHCC Announces Houston to Host 2015 National Convention

WASHINGTON, Aug. 25, 2014 -- The United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (USHCC) has announced its 2015 National Convention—the largest gathering of Hispanic business leaders in the country—will be held September 20-22, 2015 in Houston, Texas. The annual convention is a premier event for America's small business community, convening thousands of Hispanic entrepreneurs, national and international corporate executives, top government officials, and representatives from local chambers and business associations throughout the country.

"We are thrilled to bring the USHCC 2015 National Convention to Houston, a city with a defining American story, and where our community's roots are deeply embedded and widely celebrated. The city of Houston has served as a major hub for attracting world-class innovation, captains of industry, and the brightest minds from across the globe. Today, the city is home to 27 Fortune 500 headquarters, five major professional sports teams, the largest and most advanced medical complex in the world, 60 colleges and universities, and is hailed as the energy capital of the world," said USHCC President & CEO Javier Palomarez. "Few places reflect America's economic and cultural strength more than Houston, and we look forward to celebrating the success of our nation's Hispanic business community in the Lone Star State."

Each year, the USHCC National Convention is held at a destination that is renowned for its economic prowess, pro-business environment, and embrace of diversity. The USHCC National Convention is the largest gathering of its kind, and through its nearly 6,000 attendees each year, produces a surge in economic activity and business contracting for the host city. To learn more, visit www.ushccconvention.com/2015.

"Texas has cultivated an economic climate where any business can grow and thrive, and that makes the Lone Star State, exemplified by Houston, a natural fit for the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's 2015 National Convention," Gov. Perry said. "Our combination of low taxes, fair courts, smart regulations and accountable schools has helped make our state the national leader in job creation over the past decade, and we welcome this opportunity to showcase what our state has to offer to entrepreneurs from across the country."

"Houston is excited to have been chosen to host the 2015 USHCC National Convention," said Mayor Annise Parker. "We are the most ethnically and culturally diverse city in the nation, a city with an entrepreneurial spirit that promotes envious job growth and a diversified, business friendly economy. In short, if you can dream it, you can achieve it here. We look forward to welcoming USHCC convention attendees and urge them to set aside some time for exploring our great city. You could spend 365 days in our city and still not experience everything we have to offer. Showing visitors a good time is what we do."

Houston is the fourth largest city in the United States and the largest city in Texas, with a thriving half-trillion dollar economy, an estimated 150,000 Hispanic-owned firms, and a diverse business community operating across a broad spectrum of industries. Houston is one of the most affordable cities in America, and the no. 1 job-creating city in the country, with an unemployment rate significantly below the national average. According to the U.S. Census, over one-third of Houstonians identify as being Hispanic.

"Houston's economy is thriving, resilient, and embodies the type of growth that we look forward to seeing in our nation as a whole. As a city with a growing Hispanic population, and in a state whose economy has consistently proven to be among our nation's best, Houston makes perfect sense to host the USHCC's next National Convention," said USHCC Chairman of the Board Marc Rodriguez. "The role our constituency plays is engrained in the American story, and we look forward to sharing that perspective in Houston next year."

Signature events of the USHCC National Convention include the Million Dollar Club (MDC), which recognizes companies that invest \$25 million to \$1 billion in Hispanic-owned businesses; the HBE Elite Luncheon, which pays tribute to the largest Hispanic Business Enterprises (HBE) in America; the ERG Summit, the only event of its kind which brings together the Employee Resource Groups (ERG) of over 100 corporations looking to increase diversity, develop talent, and recruit the best and brightest employees; and the CEO Panel, a candid, revealing, and informative discussion about management style, leadership philosophy and the economic outlook in today's global market.

About the USHCC

Founded in 1979, the USHCC actively promotes the economic growth and development of our nation's entrepreneurs. The USHCC advocates on behalf of nearly 3.2 million Hispanic-owned businesses, that together contribute in excess of \$468 billion to the American economy, each year. As the leading organization of its kind, the USHCC serves as an umbrella to more than 200 local chambers and business associations across the nation, and partners with more than 220 major corporations.

For more information, visit www.usbcc.com.

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CONTACT:

Ammar Campa-Najjar
Associate Director of Communications
Anajjar@ushcc.com 619-721-5148