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### **The Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana Wins National Award for Communications Excellence**

EVANSVILLE, Ind. (May 8, 2008)—The Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana is a proud recipient of the American Chamber of Commerce Executives (ACCE) 22nd annual, coveted Award for Communications Excellence (ACE). The chamber's entry received an award of excellence. Entries receiving an ACE Award for Excellence surpass the fundamental standards and criteria for communications excellence.

The Awards for Communications Excellence (ACE) is an annual competition that recognizes excellence in all areas of chamber of commerce communications. ACE continues to be the vehicle for the chamber community to promote effective chamber communications as well as highlight initiatives, introduce events and inform members.

"Chambers of commerce frequently conduct the broadest, most far-reaching and comprehensive communications programs in their city, county or region," said Allen Hester, chair of the ACE Awards and president of the Dyersburg/ Dyer County (TN) Chamber of Commerce, "and they do it often times with fewer resources and smaller staffs than many other organizations. The ACE Awards are designed and structured to recognize the skill sets needed to create, plan, budget and execute quality communications programs in this unique task environment that we call 'Chamber work.' Every winning chamber, large or small, can take pride in the fact that they can compete at the national level with the "best of the best" who do this important work."

"ACCE is proud to honor, reward and celebrate the achievements of outstanding communications programs, campaign and projects in the chamber profession," added ACCE President Mick Fleming.

This year's ACE competition drew 280 entries from over 125 chambers throughout the country. Forty judges spent over 400 hours providing comprehensive feedback for each participant. Judges' backgrounds included experience in the fields of public relations, printing and design, special events planning, fundraising, journalism, economic development, web design and public policy.

Winners will be recognized during the 2008 ACCE Annual Convention July 30 – August 2 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The Chamber of Commerce of Southwest Indiana is one of the largest regional chambers of commerce in the state of Indiana. The Chamber has more than 1,800 members, and is widely viewed as a high-impact, visionary organization. The Chamber serves its members and leads Southwest Indiana by fostering an innovative business, educational, cultural, and governmental environment that excels in a global marketplace.

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