

# 2023 Small Businessperson Award



## **Purpose**

To recognize a small business owner who exemplifies professionalism, strives to enhance our community, and has made a positive impact on the local economy.

## **Selection Criteria**

1. Fewer than 50 employees and in business for at least 5 years.
2. A person who is a leader in the Florence business community and has demonstrated dedication to overcome the adversities of a small business.
3. A person who has made a positive economic impact in the Pee Dee area.

## **Eligibility**

Any member of the Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce associated with a sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, or professional practice in the Greater Florence area is eligible for nomination. Elected officials, employees of government and not-for-profit organizations are ineligible unless they are also involved in a for-profit business and meet the other eligibility requirements.

## **Recipient Honors**

The recipient will receive a plaque to be displayed at the recipient's place of business. The Small Businessperson of the Year will be announced at the Chamber's Outlook Luncheon scheduled on March 22, 2023, at the Florence Center.

## **Past Recipients**

2002	R. Austin Gilbert, Jr., Gilbert Construction
2003	Doris B. Lockhart, AccuStaff/Randstat Inc.
2004	Patricia & Steve Tiara, Mary's Flowers & Gifts
2005	Ken Gunter, FBi Construction
2006	April & Kelvin Locklear, K & L Chrome Shop
2007	Starlee Alexander, State Farm Insurance
2008	Walton & Richard Sprawls, Creel Tire
2009	Steve Powers, S/W Printing
2010	Robby Hill, HillSouth, Inc.
2011	Warren Snell, Fatz
2012	Lee Freeman, Print Image Solutions
2013	Elaine Dean, Bravo! Event and Party Rentals
2014	David Pate, Chick-fil-A
2015	Ellen Cooke, Freeman's Bakery
2016	Reginald Armstrong, Armstrong Wealth Management Group
2017	Wendell E. Jones, Jr., Edward Jones
2018	Irby Wilson, Orr Company
2019	Blake Pate, Chick-Fil-A
2020	Drew Chaplin, Palmetto Commercial Real Estate
2021	Dr. Leslie Kirby, Lifetime Hearing Services, Inc.
2022	Diana Murphy Eaddy, Diversity Works Magazine