



For Immediate Release:
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W.Va. Chamber to Honor and Welcome State Leaders

Charleston, W.Va. – The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce will hold its 2018 Legislative Reception entitled, “Celebrating West Virginia Success,” honoring legislators and honored special guests next Tuesday, January 30. A reception will be held in the Great Hall of the West Virginia Culture Center from 4:30pm – 6:30pm.

This year’s special guest will be Mr. Hershel “Woody” Williams of Ona, WV. Mr. Williams is the last living Medal of Honor recipient from the Battle of Iwo Jima, and one of only four living recipients from World War II. He is a lifelong West Virginian and is active in many veterans causes, and is currently leading the effort to erect Gold Star Families Memorial Monuments around the country.

Joining Mr. Williams will be several honored guests including:

- Dr. Michael Adelman, *President, West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine*
- Dr. Daniel Anderson, *President, Appalachian Bible College*
- Ms. Erika Bailey, *Director, West Virginia Small Business Development Center*
- Dr. E. Gordon Gee, *President, West Virginia University*
- Dr. Paul Hill, *Chancellor, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission*
- Dr. Anthony L. Jenkins, *President, West Virginia State University*
- Dr. Marsha V. Krotseng, *President, Bluefield State College*
- Ms. Carolyn Long, *Campus President, West Virginia University Institute of Technology*
- The Hon. Gayle Manchin, *Secretary, West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts*
- Dr. Steven L. Paine, *State Superintendent, West Virginia Department of Education*
- Dr. Tracy Pellet, *President, Glenville State College*
- The Hon. John Perdue, *Treasurer, West Virginia*
- Ms. Chelsea A. Ruby, *Commissioner, West Virginia Division of Tourism*
- Mr. Randall Reid-Smith, *Commissioner, West Virginia Division of Culture & History*
- The Hon. Tom Smith, *Secretary, West Virginia Department of Transportation*
- Dr. Joel Thierstein, *President, West Virginia Wesleyan*
- The Hon. Woody Thrasher, *Secretary, West Virginia Department of Commerce*
- Dr. Sarah Tucker, *Chancellor, WV Council for Community and Technical College Education*
- The Hon. Mac Warner, *Secretary of State, West Virginia*
- Dr. Edwin H. Welch, *President, University of Charleston*

- Dr. William White, *Director, Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs*

In addition to the honored guests, several hundred business leaders will be in attendance to welcome members of the West Virginia Legislature, constitutional officers, economic development professionals, and local chambers of commerce.

Members of the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce are your small business neighbors. Chamber members employ over half of our state's workforce and are found in every county and region of our state.

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