



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

David Gardner Retires After 20 Years as Executive Director of Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce

GADSDEN COUNTY, FL (August 8, 2025) - After more than two decades of dedicated service, David Gardner, longtime Executive Director of the [Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce](#), has officially announced his retirement.

Gardner, widely recognized as a driving force behind the county's economic development and regional partnerships, leaves a legacy of strategic leadership, business advocacy, community involvement and rural revitalization.

"It has been the honor of a lifetime to serve the people and businesses of Gadsden County," said Gardner. "Together, we've built a stronger, more connected business community, and I'm proud of what we've accomplished."

Gardner is particularly proud of the success of several small businesses, Trulieve Cannabis and utility scale solar farms that have grown and continue to thrive.

A Record of Leadership and Community Impact

During Gardner's tenure, the Gadsden County Chamber:

- Expanded its business retention and recruitment programs countywide.
- Launched workforce development and leadership training initiatives.
- Deepened public-private partnerships throughout the region.
- Elevated its financial strength, communications, and influence across North Florida.

He became a trusted and visible leader not only in Gadsden County but also in the broader economic development landscape of the Big Bend region. Many of the Chamber's community partners and members acknowledge his impact in the Big Bend after more than two decades of services with the Chamber and a long list of personal community initiatives.

"David's impact on this Chamber and our county cannot be overstated," said Ed Hinson, Chair of the Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce. "He has been a tireless advocate for our business community and a visionary partner in progress. His legacy will live on in the countless lives he's touched and the strong, inclusive foundation he built for future leaders. I don't know of anyone who has more knowledge of Gadsden County."

Sue Dick, President of the [Greater Tallahassee Chamber of Commerce](#), added:

"David has been a respected friend, colleague and partner in growing North Florida's economy. His commitment to collaboration has elevated our entire region."

E. Edward Murray, Jr., President of [NAI TALCOR Commercial Real Estate](#) and Gadsden County Chamber member, said: "David brought vision and professionalism to every conversation. His leadership has helped shape the economic fabric of Gadsden County. David has been our "go to" person for Gadsden County for many years."

Leadership Transition Underway

The Gadsden County Chamber's Board of Directors will launch the formal search process shortly for its next Executive Director. The Chamber is seeking a dynamic leader who can continue Gardner's legacy while bringing fresh ideas and energy to its mission of economic growth, advocacy, and community development.

Details about the search, including position requirements and application timelines, will be made available on the Chamber's website and shared with regional and statewide networks. In the meantime, the Board is working closely with Chamber staff and partners to ensure a smooth leadership transition.

###

About the Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce

The Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce serves to support, connect, and champion local businesses and economic opportunities across the region. Through advocacy, partnerships, and innovation, the Chamber works to foster a thriving and inclusive community.

For press inquiries, interviews, or more information, please contact:

Whitney Barlow

Marketing Manager, Revell Media

850.556.2622

whitney@revellmedia.com

Chamber Contact:

David Gardner

Executive Director, Gadsden County Chamber of Commerce

850.627.9231