

H A M P T O N R O A D S

# CHAMBER

**Proud Past. Strong Present. Bold future.**

**225 YEARS OF REGIONAL LEADERSHIP**

As our nation celebrates the 250th Anniversary of the United States of America and the Hampton Roads Chamber marks 225 years of service, we are reminded of the enduring connection between the success of our country and the strength of its business community.

America's story has always been one of innovation, entrepreneurship, resilience, and opportunity. From the earliest days of our republic, businesses have fueled economic growth, created jobs, strengthened communities, and helped shape the future of our nation. For 250 years, the entrepreneurial spirit of Americans has driven progress and provided the foundation for prosperity.

For nearly as long, the Hampton Roads Chamber has stood alongside the businesses, leaders, and communities that have contributed to that success. Since our founding in 1801, the Chamber has served as a steadfast advocate for commerce, economic development, and regional collaboration. Through periods of growth, challenge, transformation, and innovation, we have remained committed to supporting the businesses that power our economy and improve the quality of life for all who call Hampton Roads home.

The alignment of these two historic milestones is particularly meaningful. As America reflects on 250 years of achievement and looks toward the future, the Hampton Roads Chamber is proud to celebrate 225 years of championing the businesses and industries that have helped shape our region and our nation. From maritime commerce and

military support to advanced manufacturing, healthcare, technology, and small business entrepreneurship, Hampton Roads has long played a vital role in America's economic and national security success.

Throughout our history, the Chamber has understood that strong businesses create strong communities. Our mission has always extended beyond supporting individual organizations; it is about creating an environment where businesses can thrive, talent can grow, innovation can flourish, and communities can prosper.

As we commemorate these anniversaries, we also recognize our responsibility to continue building for the future. The challenges and opportunities facing businesses today require collaboration, leadership, and a shared commitment to progress. The Hampton Roads Chamber remains dedicated to being the voice of business, a catalyst for growth, and a convener of leaders working together to move our region forward.

As we honor America's 250th Anniversary and celebrate our own 225 years of service, we look ahead with optimism, confident that the same spirit of innovation, determination, and opportunity that built our nation and our Chamber will continue to guide us for generations to come.

-The Hampton Roads Chamber