

# *Press Release*



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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **William Ozier Elected Chair of Tennessee Chamber; New Board Members Also Elected**

William N. Ozier, a member with the statewide law firm of Bass, Berry & Sims, PLC, has been elected chairman of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry for 2012.

Ted Welch of Ted Welch Investments, Nashville, was elected Treasurer and Steven Taylor, vice president of Regulatory Affairs for FedEx Express, was named General Counsel. Scott E. Becker, senior vice president of Administration and Finance for Nissan North America, is immediate past chairman.

The Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry, celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2012, was founded as the Tennessee Manufacturers Association in 1912. The Chamber is dedicated to protecting free enterprise in Tennessee and supporting jobs creation for Tennesseans.

In assuming the chairmanship, Ozier said, "The Tennessee Chamber has long been the leading voice of business in Tennessee, and we want to strengthen the preeminence of the organization in 2012 as we continue our work to ensure that free enterprise thrives in our state and that Tennesseans have access to jobs.

"We will also continue to work in partnership with the other business organizations in the State to present a strong and unified voice for business at the local, state and national levels."

Ozier, based in the Nashville office, has practiced law at Bass, Berry & Sims for more than four decades. He is a former chair of the Labor and Employment Practice Area and has served as managing partner of the firm. He is a Fellow in the American College of Labor and Employment Lawyers, has been listed in Best Lawyers since 1982 and in Who's Who in American Law. Bill has been named one of Tennessee's leading employment lawyers since 2003 by Chambers USA and is listed on the Lawdragon 500 and Lawdragon 3000 Leading Lawyers in America.

Ozier has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Chamber since 2006 and has served as General Counsel for the Chamber for the last three years.

He has represented employers all over the state in a variety of labor and employment matters in the state and federal courts and before administrative agencies.

Ozier, a resident of Nashville, received his B.A. and J.D. degrees from Vanderbilt University.

Elected or re-elected to the Board of Directors are:

Diana Bullock, Chattanooga Electric Power Board, Chattanooga

Lawrence Brede, Energy Solutions, Oak Ridge

Kevin Triplett, Bristol Motor Speedway, Bristol

William May, GM – Spring Hill, Spring Hill

Ken Breeden, TVA, Nashville

Larry Denbrock, ASSA ABLOY Door Group, Milan

Bry Roberson, EnSafe, Nashville and Memphis

Thomas Iles, John Deere Company, Greeneville and Washington, D.C.

David Locke, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Tennessee, Chattanooga

James Mulroy, Jackson Lewis LLP, Memphis

Elected to the Executive Committee are:

Parker Smith, Eastman Chemical Co., Kingsport, Education Chair

Carl Hartley, Baker, Donelson, Bearman, Caldwell & Berkowitz, P.C., Chattanooga,

Tax Chair

Eva Lynne Disbro, McKee Foods, Collegedale, Human Resources Chair

Andy Hall, Wellmont Health System, Kingsport, Public Affairs Chair

Jon Carley, Snap-On Tools, Elizabethton, Manufacturing Chair

Chris Moore, Alcoa, Alcoa, Environmental Chair

John Van Mol, Dye, Van Mol & Lawrence, Inc., Nashville, At-Large Member

Richard Holland, Packaging Corporation of America, Counce, At-Large Member

Richard “Dicky” Walters, Whirlpool, Cleveland, At-Large Member

The Tennessee Chamber of Commerce & Industry serves as the state affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers and the American Chemistry Council. The Tennessee Chamber is Tennessee’s largest statewide, broad-based business and industry trade association, protecting free enterprise in Tennessee for 100 years.