

**PRESS RELEASE
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BUSINESS TO BUSINESS EVENT INVITES ALL LOCAL CHAMBERS TO PARTICIPATE

If your local chamber of commerce isn't involved in the Business To Business Event on September 18, call their office today! The group of local chambers that hosts this event at the Tinley Park Convention Center wants to include every local chamber in the Southland region, from the Indiana border out to Joliet, from I-55 to Peotone.

Vivette Payne of the Avery Payne Group, a coordinator of the event, has attempted to contact all the chambers. "Some chambers do not have the staff to send to meetings, and our committee understands that and will work around it. We welcome any level of involvement; for chamber members, this event is an unparalleled networking tool. We'd want all interested businesses to be able to exhibit at Business to Business. It's exposure for the business, positive for the local chambers, and invigorating to our regional economy." Business to Business is an opportunity for local businesses, specifically those who service or sell to other businesses, to exhibit their products and services, network throughout the day, and attend seminars that help them succeed.

"Last year, this concept was remarkably well-received by our Southland business community. We expect to fill our expanded floor quickly, and anticipate a substantial increase in businesspeople who attend the event." says Rebecca Palumbo of Rollins Palumbo Creative, also a coordinator of the event.

Over 20 local chambers are designing Business To Business 07, scheduled for Tuesday, September 18th from 9 am to 3 pm at the Tinley Park Convention Center. Chamber executives are enthusiastic about the opportunities this event affords their membership and urge other chambers to become involved.

Roseann Bautista, Executive Director of the Bridgeview Chamber of Commerce & Industry, stated, "Our Member participants found it to be a great way to reach out and make new contacts, prospective and potential customers, in a business-focused and formatted atmosphere. The breakout sessions and networking luncheon were very informative and structured, while the after-hour reception let them network and mingle in a relaxed setting. A great way to end the day!"

Mary Schmidt, Executive Director of the Alsip Chamber of Commerce agreed. "All our exhibitors told us that this event was great. They liked the fact that they made lots of business contacts, not only from those who walked through, but from the other exhibitors. Where else can you make so many "sales calls" in such a short time? They also thought that the price was reasonable. I encouraged our businesses to give it a try, and none of our people were disappointed."

Bernadette Shanahan-Haas, Executive Director of the Tinley Park Chamber of Commerce, added, "The Business to Business Expo allows us to continue building the Southland as a regional force for business."

Exhibiting local chamber member businesses will pay only \$175 until July 15th for space, breakfast, lunch, and an exhibitor-only reception, registering through their local chambers. After July 15th, businesses will pay \$195. Attending the event for on-the-floor networking is free with a business card. An informal networking breakfast is \$15 and lunch, featuring Covered Bridges Business Theatre, is \$25.

"Be sure your local chamber offers you the opportunity to be part of this unique event," says Payne.

The event is exclusively sponsored by the Daily Southtown and Star newspapers.

To get your local chamber involved with Business to Business, call Vivette Payne at 708-747-0844 by Tuesday March 27th. For more information, log onto www.BtoBExpo.com
