



S B
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MEMBER
WELCOME
PACKET





OUR MISSION

We believe the success of small businesses is a critical component of local communities and the nation's economy. The SBAC has spent the last decade alongside small business owners fighting for reasonable policies that foster a healthier small business environment - economically, socially, and culturally.

The SBAC's **non-partisan** approach continues to shape local, state, and federal small business legislation.

Check out our website for more information: www.sbacil.org.

SBAC TIMELINE



THE SBAC TEAM



**Elliot
Richardson**

*Co-Founder
&
President*



**Scott
Baskin**

*Chief
Executive
Officer*



**Patti
Zikmund-Roverud**

*Chief
Operating
Officer*



**Sara
Everson**

*Marketing &
Membership
Assistant*



**Diego
Roberts**

*Research
Analyst*



**Bella
Gugliotta**

*Policy Analyst &
Coordinator*



A NOTE FROM OUR CO-FOUNDER & PRESIDENT: ELLIOT RICHARDSON

Welcome and thank you for becoming a member of the SBAC!

We are so excited to have you engaged in our mission to empower the small business community and level the playing field for Illinois' small businesses. We want you to know that as a supporter of the small business community, we have your back.

We are a robust, non-partisan organization that understands action which bolsters the small business community and economy. Since its inception in 2010, the SBAC has accomplished a great deal, and we continue to fight to move an array of policy-initiatives. We've tackled legislation on the student debt crisis while helping small businesses compete; worked on reinstating an important small business tax credit; addressed minority contracting discrepancies as well as many other initiatives.

We believe the SBAC can advocate for the small business community through the power of critical mass. By aggregating small businesses, we can make the cost of doing business more affordable. Check out one of our member benefits in the SBAC member benefits program on page 10.

We would love to see you at an SBAC function! And we offer many ways to network with members, jump on a town hall with legislators, attend a Women in Business event and much more!

We ask that you consider promoting our non-partisan advocacy efforts to your networks. You are fighting for the small business community, and we think everyone should know about that!

We are listening. Contact our office with any questions or ideas you have on how to make the SBAC better. We understand that the small business community must be its own advocate. You will find that our leaders, members and entire SBAC community works as one.

Welcome to the team!

Small Business Advocacy Council

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY?



[Read up on our current advocacy initiatives](#)



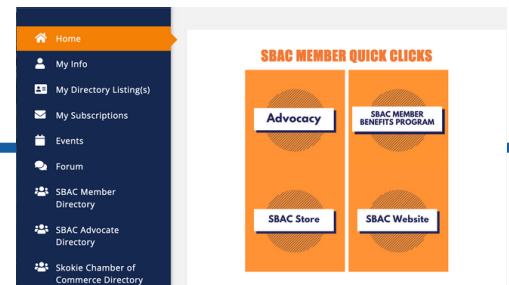
[Join an SBAC Committee](#)



[Check out SBAC In the News](#)



[Come to an SBAC Networking Event](#)



[Discover SBAC members through the member portal](#)



The MemberPlus App

[Download the SBAC MemberPlus app](#)

WHAT LIES AT THE HEART OF A COMMUNITY IS PEOPLE WITH HEART.

Communities aren't an entity, they're made up of individuals. People who dream, reach higher, and make that extra effort. We've got people like that, too. People who are proud to serve and support businesses with vision, not to mention heart. Visit or call your local Fifth Third Banker.

Michael Martino, Market Executive
10759 West 159th Street, Orland Park, IL 60467
708.403.6325



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Current Advocacy Initiatives

The Small Business Advocacy Council is fighting for small businesses in Illinois. Headquartered in Chicago, the SBAC's non-partisan advocacy work shapes local, statewide, and federal legislation for small businesses.



The RISE Grant Program

A grant program for small businesses that retrain and hire individuals that lost their jobs or businesses because of the pandemic. The grant is for only net new jobs and small businesses with less than 50 employees. The proposed dollar amount of the grant is \$5000.

Occupational Licensing

4 legislative proposals focused on reforming Illinois' professional regulatory process. Included are:

- Guarding Against Unnecessary and Burdensome Licenses
- Eliminating Unnecessary and Burdensome Licenses
- Growing Illinois' Workforce and Tax Base
- Reduce Recidivism and Grow the Workforce

Reduce Recidivism and Grow the Workforce

Advocating for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to be utilized to facilitate the training and hiring of returning citizens. This grant program will provide qualified businesses with 100 or fewer employees a grant so long as they train and hire eligible returning citizens in a new occupation.

Funding for Local Chambers of Commerce

We are advocating for the use of ARPA funds to provide grants for local chambers of commerce with less than 1500 members. These grants should be awarded to chambers which can demonstrate a \$5000 or greater loss of gross revenue from 2019 to 2020. The grants should equal two months of that lost revenue.

Funding for Intrastate Equity Crowdfunding Portal

We are advocating for an appropriation to build an intrastate equity crowdfunding portal from ARPA funds. This portal will be used to encourage local investment in main street businesses and commercial corridors throughout Illinois. The portal will be administered by either the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) or a non-profit third-party vendor.

Funding for Small Commercial Property Owners and Multi-Family Unit Owners

We are advocating for the use of ARPA funding to provide grants to struggling property owners, many of whom may face foreclosure without intervention. These small commercial property owners have been excluded from virtually all relief programs and are in serious need of targeted assistance.

Coalition Events

Check out the NRC Events calendar to see more information on our town halls, coalition meetings, partner events and more!



Jake Martin

Program Leader

jake@sbacil.org

About the Coalition

Thriving commercial corridors support local communities across Chicago and Cook County. Prior to the pandemic, however, many corridors struggled. As Chicago emerges from the pandemic and local communities confront a new economic landscape, a strong coalition of stakeholders is needed to advocate for policies and initiatives which will revitalize, empower and connect commercial corridors and neighborhoods.

This is a collaborative project. The SBAC has formed substantial partnerships to achieve the project goals and objectives. These partnerships are focused on engaging stakeholders to collectively advocate for policies and initiatives which can empower, revitalize, and connect commercial corridors.

This diverse group of partners will provide the project with significant institutional knowledge and broad reach across struggling and disadvantaged commercial corridors. The inclusion of the Uptown Chamber of Commerce ensures the project procures insight and collaboration with commercial corridors on the north side of Chicago. Additional partnerships will be formed throughout Chicago and Cook County. Any additional will be executed only with partners serving struggling commercial corridors in disadvantaged communities.

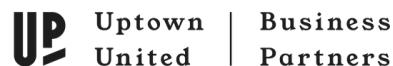
REVITALIZE EMPOWER CONNECT

Contact the Coalition

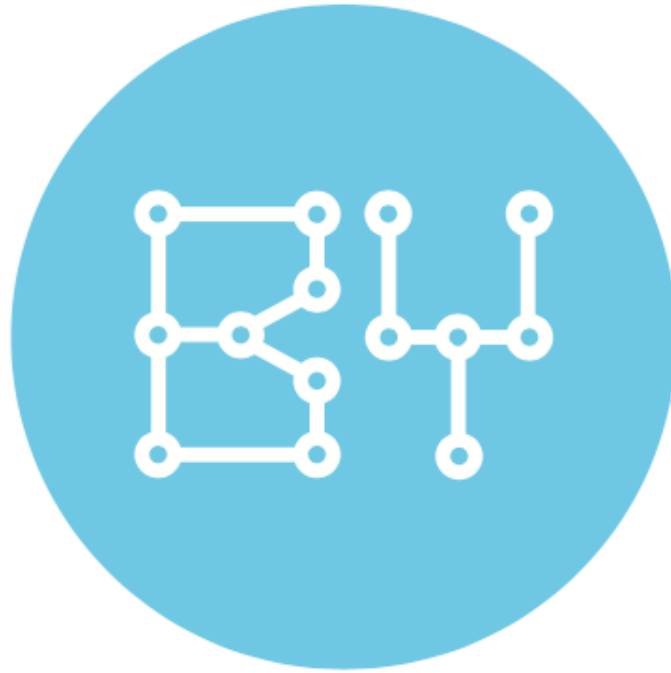
If you'd like to contact the coalition, please fill out the form and a coalition representative will contact you regarding your submission within 48 hours. Please note that some requests may take 1-2 weeks to fully process. We look forward to hearing from you!



OUR PARTNERS



Inspired



what you do.

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SBAC WINS 2021



Chamber Advocacy

While the complex situation on the tax deductibility of PPP loans is where most small business owners focused their legislative concerns, we understood the unique role local Chambers of Commerce play in the advancement of small business interests. When the pandemic hit and 501(c)6s were excluded from all legislative relief efforts, we immediately galvanized support. In our letter to the IL congressional delegation, we assembled 58 chambers of commerce, from all across the state, behind one unified message. This is a true testament in our ability to tailor advocacy initiatives in the most non-partisan and effective manner.

Tax Deductibility of PPP Loans

In April, the IRS published Notice 2020-32 saying that under section 265 of the Internal Revenue Code business expenses paid for from a class of tax-exempt income – a forgiven PPP loan – are taxable. This would have been absolutely devastating for small businesses that were already struggling to stay afloat. Urgently, with the aid of our members and Chamber partners, we used our voice in the nationwide effort demanding a legislative solution. That solution was reached with Section 276 of The Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021. This amended the original CARES Act to clarify that PPP loans are in fact tax-deductible – a major victory for the grassroots effort to save small businesses.

Home Based Businesses

Ordinance SO2021-332 expands the limit on home based business operational space to 300 square feet or to 25 percent of the total floor area in any single-family residence, and more than 15 percent of the floor area of a unit in a building containing multiple dwellings. This allows business owners to unleash their productivity and work from home during the pandemic. The ordinance represents a successful collaboration of partnerships between the SBAC, the IJ Clinic, and BACP. ,

Public Way Use Permits

The Small Business Advocacy Council and a robust coalition of business and community organizations have been fighting to reduce the time it takes for small businesses to obtain a sign or other public way use permit. They have been calling on policymakers to cut red tape so that small businesses can display a sign more quickly and let potential customers know they are open for business. Mayor Lightfoot and the Chicago City Council have answered that call and come through in a big way! In July 2021, an ordinance was passed that eliminates the need for City Council approval on almost all sign and other public way use permits.



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DISCOVER SBAC - ADVOCACY

To get more involved in advocacy, we encourage you to join our bi-weekly committee calls to hear more about the SBAC's current advocacy initiatives and voice your opinion.

Policy Committee

Tuesdays 12pm

Economic, Equity & Empowerment Sub-committee

Mondays 9:30am

SBAC Small Business Package Committee

Thursdays 2pm

Commercial Property & Real Estate Committee

Fridays 10am



DISCOVER SBAC - NETWORKING

Explore a variety of SBAC events - live and virtual - to meet new faces, share ideas, and engage in lively conversation. All conveniently located on the [SBAC events calendar](#), our events range from networking to webinars, golf outings and more.

Follow, like, and subscribe to the Small Business Advocacy Council on social media to stay up-to-date with the latest SBAC news, watch past webinars, learn about the small business community and more!






SBAC MEMBER CENTER

MEMBER BENEFITS

OUR MEMBER BENEFIT PROGRAMS ARE DESIGNED TO OFFER YOU AND YOUR BUSINESS COST-SAVING SOLUTIONS

[LEARN MORE AND SIGN UP](#)

 <p>Cloud Service Programs for SBAC Members</p> <p>Steadfast is a Chicago-based company providing innovative cloud hosting services for businesses across the U.S for over 20 years. We specialize in highly customized services to meet unique IT needs and specific business challenges.</p> <p>Steadfast's Partnership with SBAC Presents a 10% Cloud Service Allowance</p> <p>LEARN MORE HERE</p>	 <p>Cloud Service Programs for SBAC Members</p> <p>Dale Carnegie-Chicago delivers proven programs, which have helped millions turn individual potential into performance that positively impacts the individual's life and the performance of their organization.</p> <p>We would love to get to know you and better understand your goals and priorities.</p> <p>Ask us how to receive a discount of up to 20% on individual or company training programs for SBAC Members!</p> <p>Dale Carnegie Professional Training</p>	 <p>Payments Processing and More</p> <p>Want a better way to accept payments?</p> <p>Team Merchant is a locally owned and independent small business that helps businesses and non-profits find their ideal solution. Our goal is to empower merchants by providing the most transparent and affordable payment processing, consulting, education and support.</p> <p>Payments Processing Analysis and Savings</p>
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MEMBER PORTAL



MEMBERS GET EXCLUSIVE ACCESS TO THE MEMBER DIRECTORY LIST, ONLINE FORUM, SPECIAL BENEFITS AND MORE

[LOG IN FROM OUR WEBSITE](#)

SBAC APP

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SAUL EWING
ARNSTEIN
& LEHR^{LLP}

The Power of Collaboration.

Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr LLP is a combination of Saul Ewing LLP and Arnstein & Lehr LLP, a firm with 375-plus attorneys and 16 offices stretching down the East Coast from Boston to Miami and extending into the Midwest by way of Chicago and Minneapolis.

This combination of reach and local autonomy supports our clients with the clout of a mega-firm and the service hallmarks of a boutique. With one firm, our clients get a macro view of the law with a micro focus on their unique legal needs. Saul Ewing Arnstein & Lehr serves businesses throughout the United States and internationally. We represent recognizable names in corporate America, exciting start-ups and an array of closely held and privately held companies, as well as nonprofits, governmental and educational entities.



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