

2024 Delaware County Business Advocacy Resource Guide



Local



State



Federal



Many Views. One Voice. Stronger Together.
Advocate ♦ Connect ♦ Grow

The Delaware County Chamber of Commerce believes that thriving communities begin with prosperous businesses. By taking action in key areas—advocate, connect, and grow-- we are a unified voice of business for the improvement of our communities.

ADVOCATING FOR POLICIES TO BUILD AND GROW BUSINESS

Effective advocacy is founded on accurate and substantiated information. We remain a locus for facts and primary resources on issues important to business owners.

Our priorities include:

- **Engage Elected Officials.** We will leverage our strong personal relationships with federal and state officials and government agencies to influence public policy, deliver funding to critical community services, raise awareness of economic and community needs, and connect them to our network of resources.
- **Center for Reliable Information.** Provide resources and contacts to members seeking assistance with municipal officials.
- **Unified Voice of Business.** We continue to seek opportunities for input from businesses on public policy issues.
- **Creating Access for Members.** We will host a Legislative Forum, featuring state and federal elected officials, to give members better access to information, personal contact, and direct discussion with officials.
- **Public Transportation.** The Chamber will use the knowledge gained through its transportation planning process to be a resource to the County government and others seeking to develop public transportation options.

TIPS

for Communicating with Elected Officials

- ★ **Be brief.** A legislator's time is limited. *So is yours.*
- ★ **Be appreciative.** Acknowledge previous support and current action.
- ★ **Be specific.** Get to the issue. Don't be general.
- ★ **Be informative and factual.** Give reasons and provide supporting materials. Propose a solution to the problem.
- ★ **Be courteous and polite.** Treat them as you would want to be treated. Ask for a specific action without being demanding or threatening.
- ★ **Be reasonable.** Remember, it's fine to have a difference of opinion.
- ★ **Be realistic.** Issues may need to be resolved through compromise.
- ★ **Be understanding.** Put yourself in the legislator's position and try to understand his/her concerns and goals.
- ★ **Be knowledgeable and evaluate issues.** The introduction of a legislative bill or a resolution does not mean that it will become law. Don't get too excited about it until you've learned the who, what, and why of any legislation.

Ways to Communicate to Your Elected Officials

LETTERS

Letters are still the primary means to communicate with public officials. Letters represent voters, are read, and elicit responses. Letters can be informal or formal, typewritten or handwritten.

OFFICE VISITS

Call in advance to set up an appointment and explain the nature of your visit. Do your homework and make sure you understand the official's position on a particular issue. You may consider inviting other people with similar concerns. Don't be bashful about inviting the official to your place of business. Elected officials rely heavily on their staff for guidance, information, research, and more, so it is important to get to know their staff. *NOTE: Many offices remain closed or with limited access due to COVID-19. If visiting an office, be courteous and wear a mask.*

TELEPHONE CALLS

Always be concise, and discuss only one issue per telephone call. If the issue is in regard to a particular bill, provide the bill number and state your position. Explain how the bill impacts your business and why you support or oppose it. Remember, when calling state or federal officials, you will likely be speaking with aides or other staff.

EMAIL

Depending on the legislator, email can be an effective way to communicate when issues are time sensitive and the need for action is critical. Keep your message short and to one screen, so the official does not need to scroll through the text. Always provide complete contact information in your email, including mailing address, phone number, and email address. Email communication respects everyone's time and is often the most convenient and effective way to connect with federal and state officials.

2024 Delaware County Regional Legislative Directory

FEDERAL OFFICIALS

U.S. SENATOR

KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND

Lisa Hofflich, Hudson Valley Regional Director

Hudson Valley Regional Office: P.O. Box 749 | Yonkers, NY 10710

Tel. (845) 875-4585 | Fax (845) 875-9099

www.Gillibrand.Senate.gov

U.S. SENATOR

CHARLES SCHUMER

Amanda Spellicy, Regional Representative

Regional Office: 15 Henry Street, Room. 100 A-F

Binghamton, NY 13901

Phone: (607) 772-6792 | Fax: (607) 772-8124

www.Schumer.Senate.gov

CONGRESSIONAL REPRESENTATIVE | 19th District

Marc Molinaro

District Office:

49 Court Street, Suite 210 | Binghamton, NY 13901

Phone: (607) 242-0200

www.molinaro.house.gov

Regional Offices:

Sullivan County

59 North Main Street

Liberty, NY 12754

Delaware County

661 West Main Street

Hancock, NY 13783

Otsego County

41 South Main Street

Oneonta, NY 13820

2024 Delaware County Regional Legislative Directory

NEW YORK STATE OFFICIALS

GOVERNOR

KATHY HOCHUL

State Capitol | Albany, NY 12224

Phone: (518) 474-8390

www.Governor.NY.gov

ATTORNEY GENERAL

LETITIA JAMES

State Capitol | Albany, NY 12224

Phone: 1-800-771-7755

www.AG.NY.gov

COMPTROLLER

THOMAS P. DINAPOLI

110 State Street | Albany, NY 12236

Phone: (518) 474-4044

www.OSC.State.NY.us

STATE SENATOR | 51st Senate District | includes all of Delaware County

PETER OBERACKER

Legislative Office Building, Room 506 | Albany, NY 12247

Phone: 518-455-3131

41 South Main Street | Oneonta, NY 13820

Phone: (607) 432-5524

Oberacker@NYSenate.gov | www.NYSenate.gov/senators/Peter-Oberacker

2024 Delaware County Regional Legislative Directory

ASSEMBLY MEMBER | 121st Assembly District | Colchester, Deposit, Hancock, Masonville, Sidney, Tompkins, Walton

JOE ANGELINO

Legislative Office Building, Room 549 | Albany, NY 12248

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angelinoj@nyassembly.gov | www.NYAssembly.gov/mem/Joe-Angelino

ASSEMBLY MEMBER | 101st Assembly District | Andes, Franklin, Hamden

BRIAN MAHER

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ASSEMBLY MEMBER | 102nd Assembly District | Bovina, Davenport, Delhi, Harpersfield, Kortright, Middletown, Roxbury, Stamford

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Legislative Office Building, Room 937 | Albany, NY 12248

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2024 Delaware County Regional Legislative Directory

DELAWARE COUNTY OFFICIALS

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

TINA MOLE'

CHAIRMAN | TOWN OF BOVINA

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Phone: (607) 832-4302 | Fax: 607-832-4666

www.bovinany.org

JAMES ELLIS

VICE-CHAIRMAN | TOWN OF MEREDITH

4247 Turnpike Road | PO Box 116 | Meridale, NY 13806

Phone: (607) 746-2431 | (607) 746-8544 (fax)

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www.townofmeredith.com

ART MERRILL

BUDGET DIRECTOR | TOWN OF COLCHESTER

PO Box 321 | 72 Tannery Road | Downsville, NY 13755

Phone: (607) 363-7169 | Fax: (607) 363-7164

www.TownofColchesterNY.com

WAYLAND 'BUD' GLADSTONE

TOWN OF ANDES

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TIMOTHY KELSO

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2024 Delaware County Regional Legislative Directory

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TOWN OF DELHI

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TOWN OF DEPOSIT

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TOWN OF FRANKLIN

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WAYNE MARSHFIELD

TOWN OF HAMDEN

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JERRY VERNOLD

TOWN OF HANCOCK

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GEORGE HAYNES

TOWN OF KORTRIGHT

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BETTY SCOTT

TOWN OF MASONVILLE

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GLEN FAULKNER

TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN

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ALLEN HINKLEY

TOWN OF ROXBURY

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2024 Delaware County Regional Legislative Directory

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JOHN KOSIER

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WILLIAM LAYTON

TOWN OF TOMPKINS

148 Bridge Street | PO Box 139 | Trout Creek, NY 13847

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JOSEPH CETTA

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waltonsupervisor@stny.rr.com

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COMMITTEES

(* denotes committee chairperson)

Community Health

*Art Merrill
Joseph Cetta

Wayne Marshfield
Rebecca Walley

Betty Scott

Economic Development

*John Kosier
Timothy Kelso

Donald Smith
Lisa Driscoll

Eric Wilson

Finance

*Art Merrill
Wayland Gladstone
George Haynes

John Kosier
Wayne Marshfield
Eric Wilson

Joseph Cetta

Human Resources/Insurance

*James Ellis
Donald Smith

Wayland Gladstone
William Layton

Art Merrill

Legislative

*Allen Hinkley
Lisa Driscoll

Art Merrill
Timothy Kelso
Eric Wilson

Mental Health

*Joseph Cetta
Wayne Marshfield

Art Merrill
Maya Boukai

Betty Scott

Planning, Recreation, and Culture

*Jerry Vernold
Allen Hinkley

James Ellis
William Layton

Rebecca Walley

Public Safety

*Wayland Gladstone
Joseph Cetta

Glen Faulkner
Allen Hinkley

Betty Scott

Public Works

*George Haynes
Joseph Cetta

Jerry Vernold
John Kosier
William Layton

Shared Services

*George Haynes
Glen Faulkner

Lisa Driscoll
James Ellis

Timothy Kelso

Social Services

*Wayne Marshfield
Allen Hinkley

Maya Boukai
Glen Faulkner

Jerry Vernold

ADVOCACY PARTNERS

The Chamber partners with state and national organizations to ensure that our collective voice has greater impact in Albany and Washington, D.C. While we may not agree with ALL of the legislative priorities of these groups, we often find common cause and actively engage with legislators as part of larger efforts.

These partnering state-wide and national organizations include:

United States Chamber of Commerce

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business organization representing companies of all sizes across every sector of the economy. Our members range from the small businesses and local chambers of commerce that line the Main Streets of America to leading industry associations and large corporations. Delaware County Chamber members may be eligible for a free small business membership in the U.S. Chamber. Contact the Delaware County Chamber for details.

<https://www.uschamber.com>

Upstate United

Upstate United is a non-partisan, pro-taxpayer, pro-economic growth and pro-Upstate education and advocacy coalition made up of business and trade organizations from across Upstate New York. Its mission is to advocate for fiscally responsible policies that support a vibrant upstate economy.

<https://upstateunited.com>

New York Chapter--National Federation of Independent Businesses

NFIB is the voice of small business. It's a member-driven organization advocating for America's small and independent business owners in Washington, D.C., and all 50 state capitals.

<https://www.nfib.com/new-york>

Business Council of New York State

The Business Council of New York State, Inc., is the leading business organization in New York State, representing the interests of large and small firms throughout the state. Its membership is made up of roughly 2,400 member companies, local chambers of commerce and professional and trade associations.

<https://www.bcnys.org>

NOTES:

ADVOCATING AS A VOICE FOR BUSINESS.
CONNECTING MEMBERS TO RESOURCES.
GROWING JOBS AND OPPORTUNITIES.

That's what the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce is all about!

The Delaware County Chamber of Commerce believes that thriving communities begin with prosperous businesses. By taking action in key areas—advocate, connect, and grow-- we are a unified voice of business for the improvement of our communities.



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Advocate ♦ Connect ♦ Grow

Delaware County Chamber of Commerce

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