

CHARLESTON REGIONAL BUSINESS JOURNAL

LOWCOUNTRY NEWSROOM

Executive Editor - Andy Owens
aowens@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3142

Senior Copy Editor - Beverly Barfield
bbarfield@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3115

Staff Writer - Liz Segrist
lsegrist@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3119

Staff Writer - Patrick Hoff
phoff@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3144

Editor, Custom Publishing Division - Steve McDaniel
smcdaniel@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3123

Assistant Editor, Digital Media - Ashley Sprouse
asprouse@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3145

Research Specialist - Paige Hardy
phardy@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3125

Senior Graphic Designer - Jane James
jjames@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3118

Graphic Designer - Andrew Sprague
asprague@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3128

Assistant Graphic Designer - Jessica Stout
jstout@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3113

Assistant Graphic Designer - Joel Travis
jtravis@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3124

MIDLANDS NEWSROOM

Editor - Melinda Waldrop
mwaldrop@scbiznews.com • 803.726.7542

UPSTATE NEWSROOM

Editor - Ross Norton
rnorton@scbiznews.com • 864.720.1222

Staff Writer - Teresa Cutlip
tcutlip@scbiznews.com • 864.720.1223

Associate Editor, Custom Publishing Division - Jim Tatum
jtatum@scbiznews.com • 864.720.2269

LOWCOUNTRY ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

Senior Account Executive - Robert Reilly
rreilly@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3107

Account Executive - Sara Cox
scox@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3109

Account Executive - Melissa Verzaal
mverzaal@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3104

SC BIZ NEWS

South Carolina's Media Engine for Economic Growth

President and Group Publisher - Grady Johnson
gjohnson@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3103

Vice President of Sales - Steve Fields
sfields@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3110

Creative Director - Ryan Wilcox
rwilcox@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3117

Events Director - Kathy Allen
kallen@scbiznews.com • 864.720.1225

Events Account Executive - Melissa Tomberg
sfields@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3110

Audience Development & IT Manager
Kim McManus
kmcmanus@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3116

Accounting Manager - Vickie Deadmon
vdeadmon@scbiznews.com • 803.726.7541

CUSTOM MEDIA DIVISION

Director of Business Development - Mark Wright
mwright@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3143

Business Development Executive
Elizabeth Hodges
lhodges@scbiznews.com • 843.849.3105



Best Advice

CHRIS KERRIGAN
PRESIDENT AND CEO OF TRIDENT UNITED WAY

Story and photography by Patrick Hoff

"THE BEST ADVICE I'VE EVER RECEIVED

is 'rise and shine.' I still remember hearing my father bellow this every morning as he got his nine children up and ready for school each day. It was as much a daily spiritual reminder as it was his motivational call for us children to always do our very best. Both of my parents taught us early on that from whom much is given, much is expected. Community service, helping thy neighbor and faith were core components. It's why I've dedicated my entire career to nonprofit work, and I've felt blessed to have held the best job in the community for the last 20 years."

INTERESTING FACT: Kerrigan's father was the CEO of United Way of Greater Cleveland for about 15 years, and Chris has followed in his footsteps. He will wrap up a 30-year United Way career on April 1.

UNITING THE WAY

Chris Kerrigan became president and CEO of Trident United Way in April 1998, and is retiring almost exactly 21 years after he started. Kerrigan arrived at Trident United Way after serving in various roles at United Ways in Washington, D.C., Asheville, N.C., and Raleigh. Kerrigan has a bachelor's degree from St. Michael's College in Burlington, Vt. He lives in Mount Pleasant with Beth, his wife, and Mary Katherine, his daughter. Kerrigan has two adult children, Sara and Collin, who live in southern California and Washington, D.C., respectively.

CHARLESTON REGIONAL BUSINESS JOURNAL

Charleston Regional Business Journal (USPS 18822) is published biweekly, 27 times per year, including one special issue in February, by SC Biz News.
P.O. Box 446, Charleston, SC 29402.
Periodicals postage paid at Charleston, SC.
Mailing address:
1439 Stuart Engals Blvd., Suite 200
Mount Pleasant, SC 29464.
Postmaster: Send address changes to:
Charleston Regional Business Journal,
P.O. Box 446, Charleston, SC 29402

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Annual subscribers receive 27 issues of the Business Journal including The Book of Lists and Newsmakers, plus four special supplements: Profiles in Business, Event Planning Guide, Market Facts, and Giving.
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A portfolio company of BridgeTower Media

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